Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
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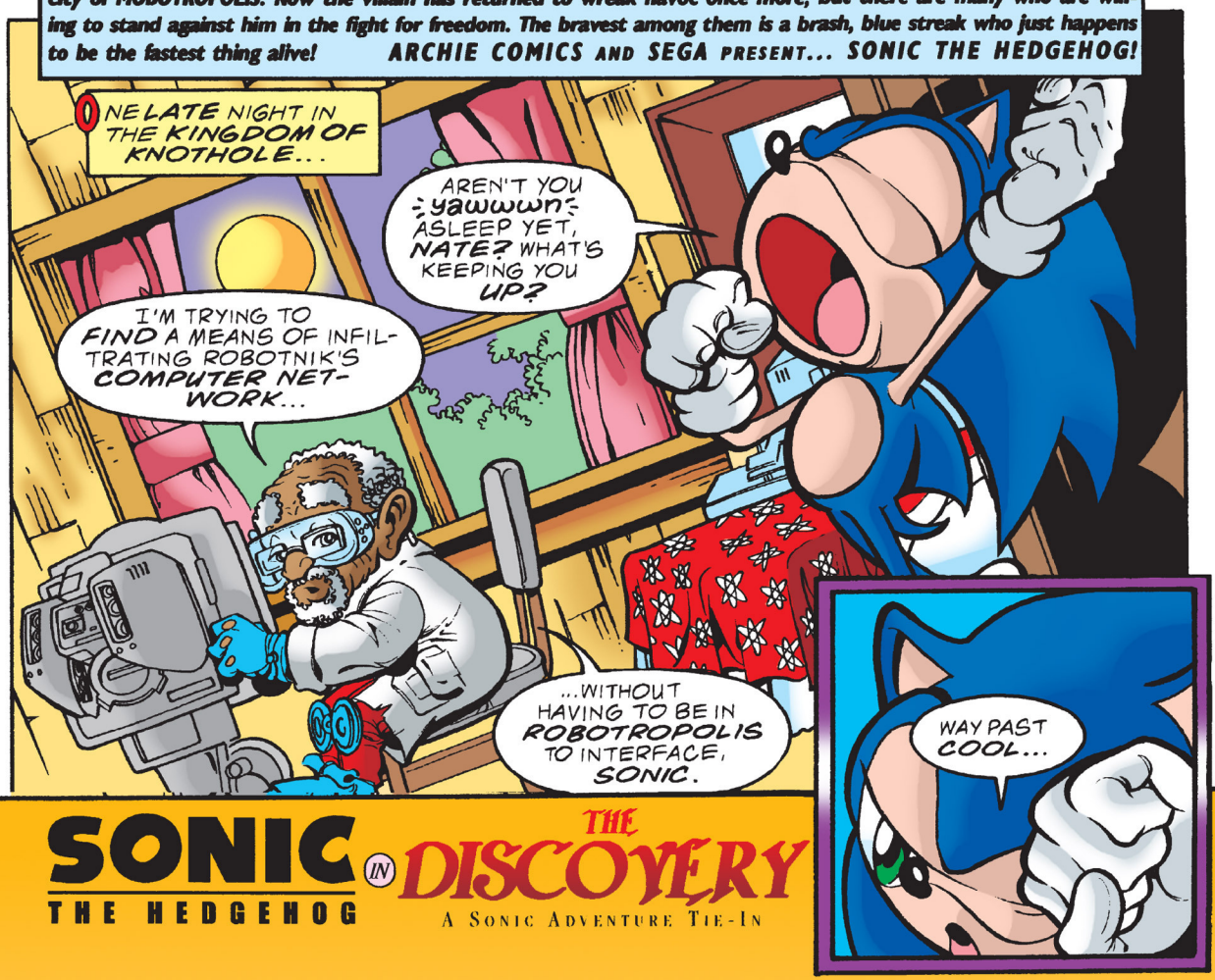
THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Sega Dreamcast™
SONIC ADVENTURE™
TIE-IN

After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over planet MOBIUS was believed to have finally ended! With the technological tyrant vanquished and his smelly factories shut down, order and beauty were restored to the city of MOBOTROPOLIS. Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue streak who just happens to be the fastest thing alive! **ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!**


ONE LATE NIGHT IN THE KINGDOM OF KNOTHOLE...
AREN'T YOU ÷yawwwn÷ ASLEEP YET, NATE? WHAT'S KEEPING YOU UP?
I'M TRYING TO FIND A MEANS OF INFILTRATING ROBOTNIK'S COMPUTER NETWORK...
...WITHOUT HAVING TO BE IN ROBOTROPOLIS TO INTERFACE, SONIC.
WAY PAST COOL...

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG IN THE DISCOVERY

A SONIC ADVENTURE TIE-IN

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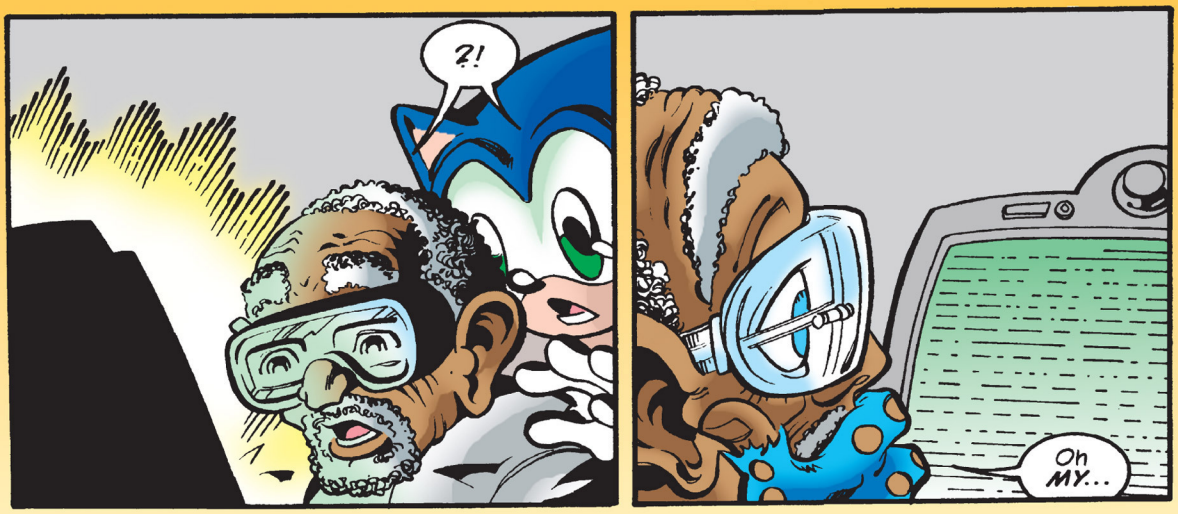

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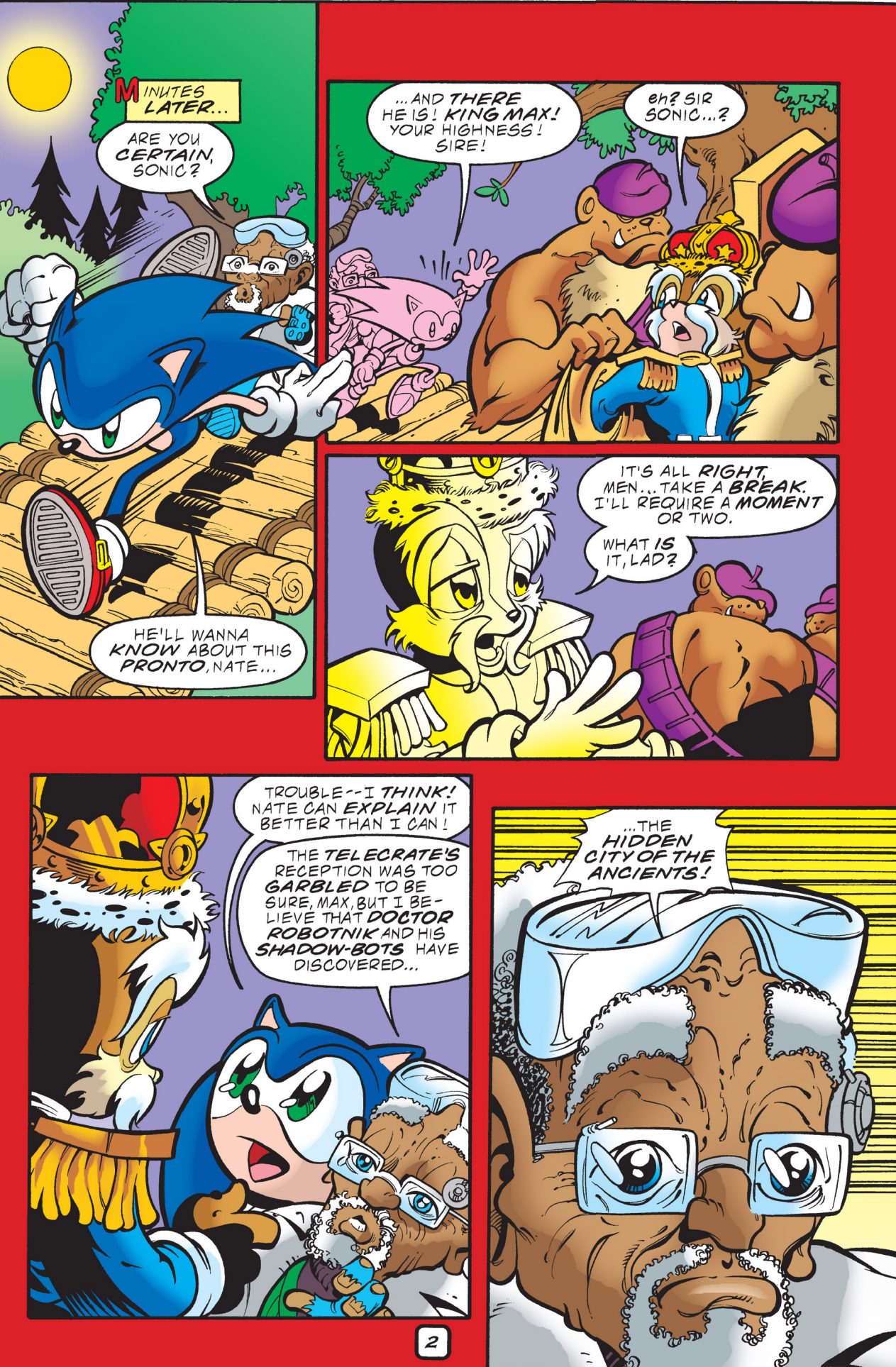
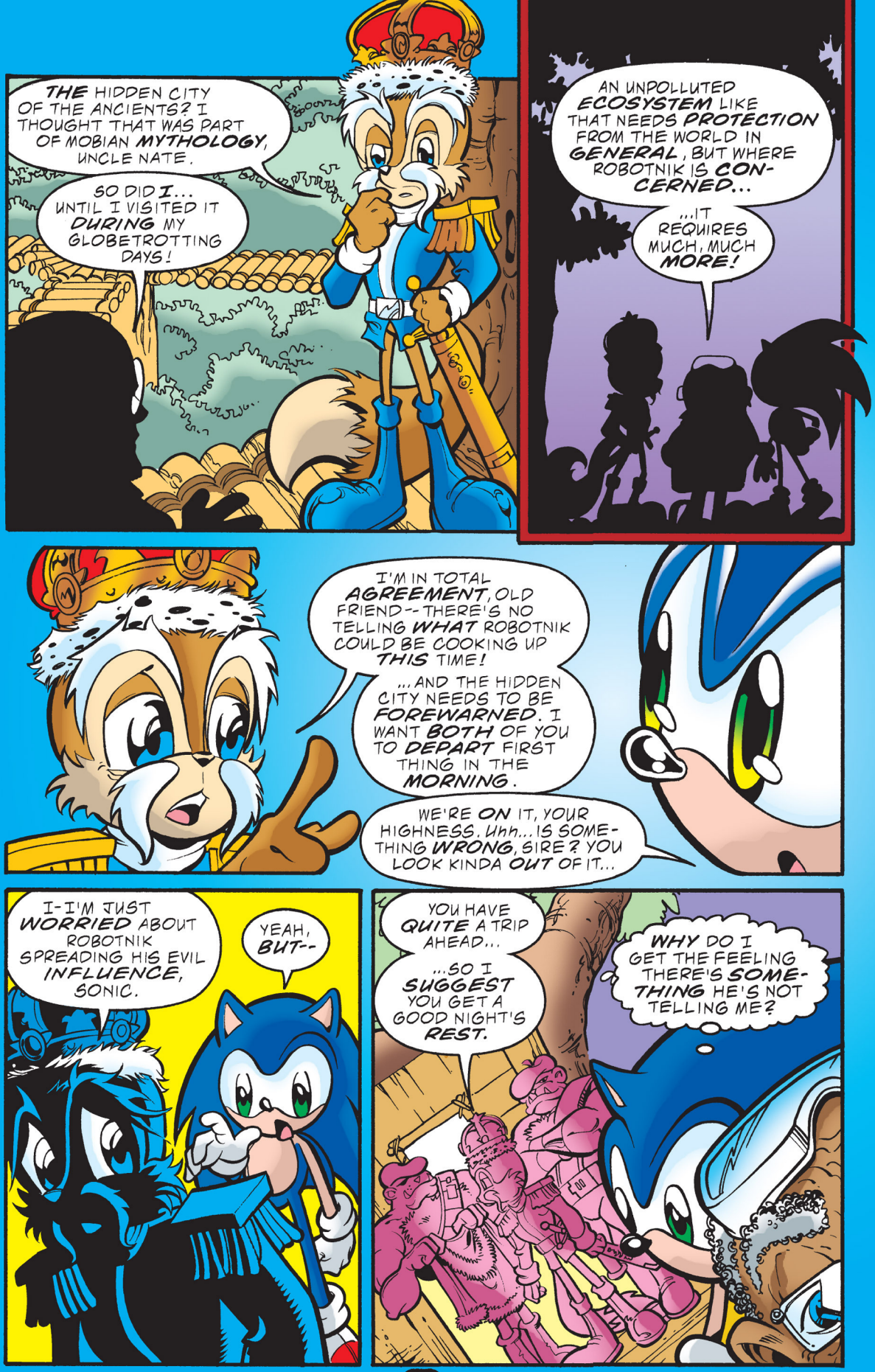
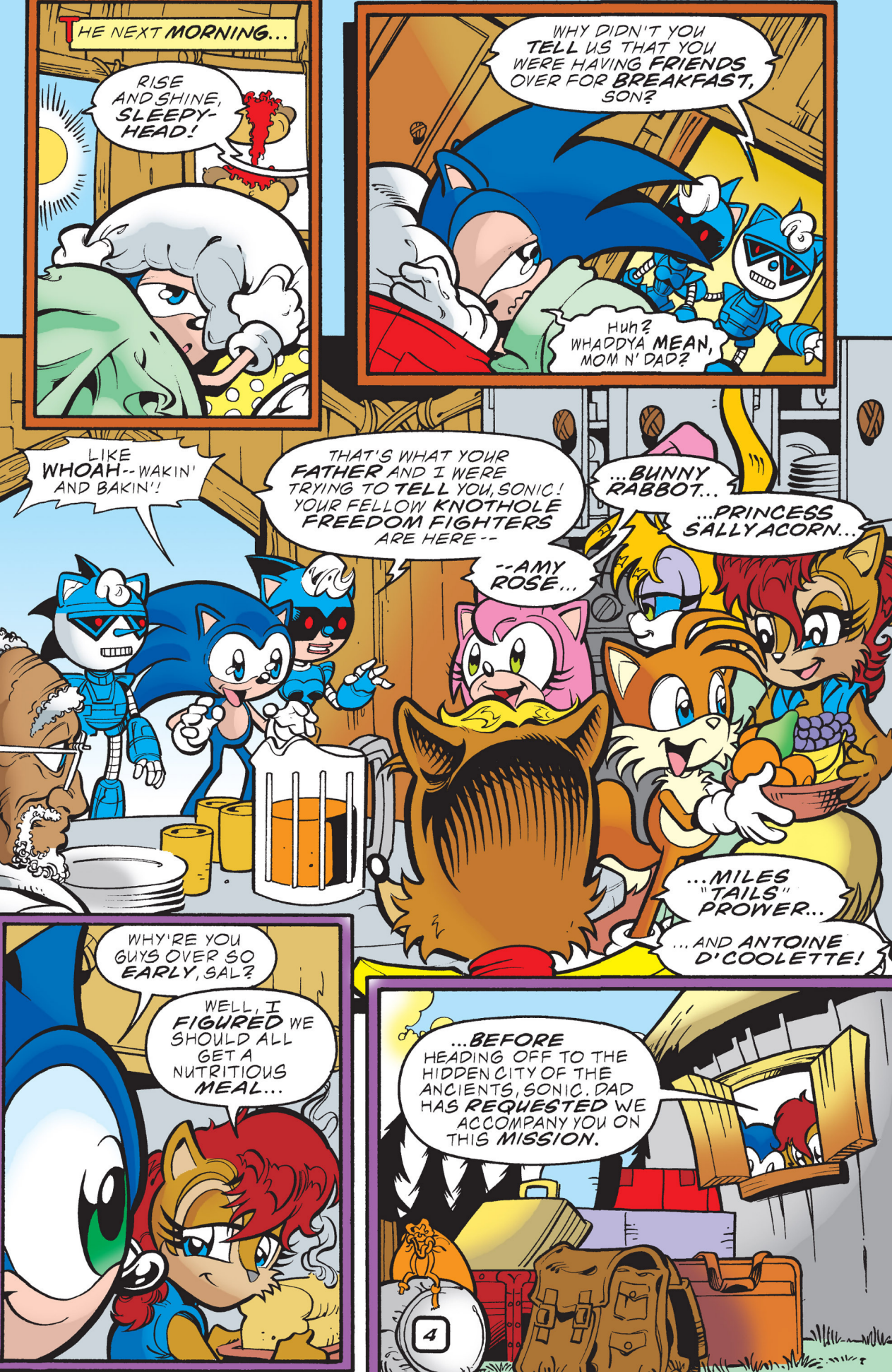
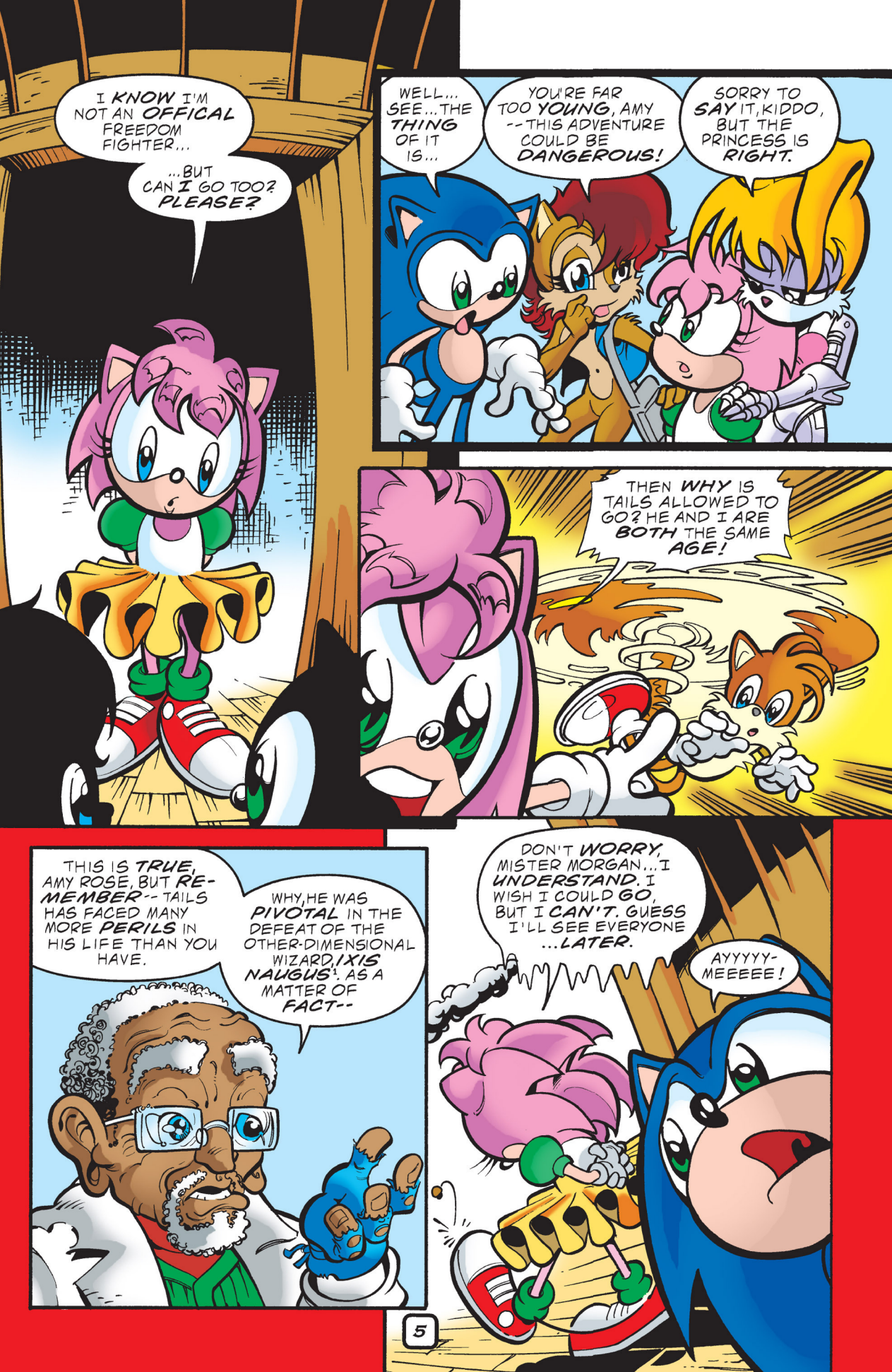
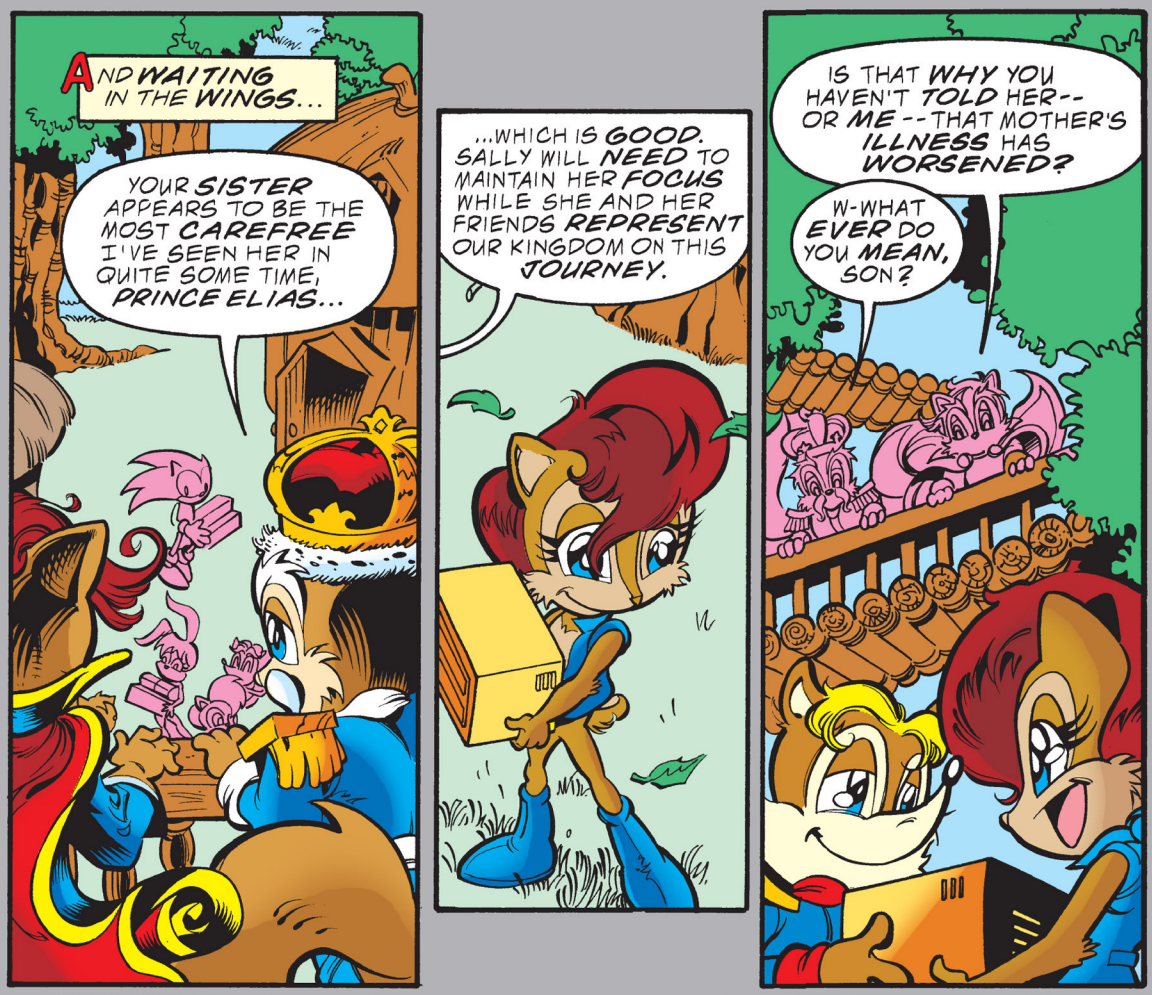
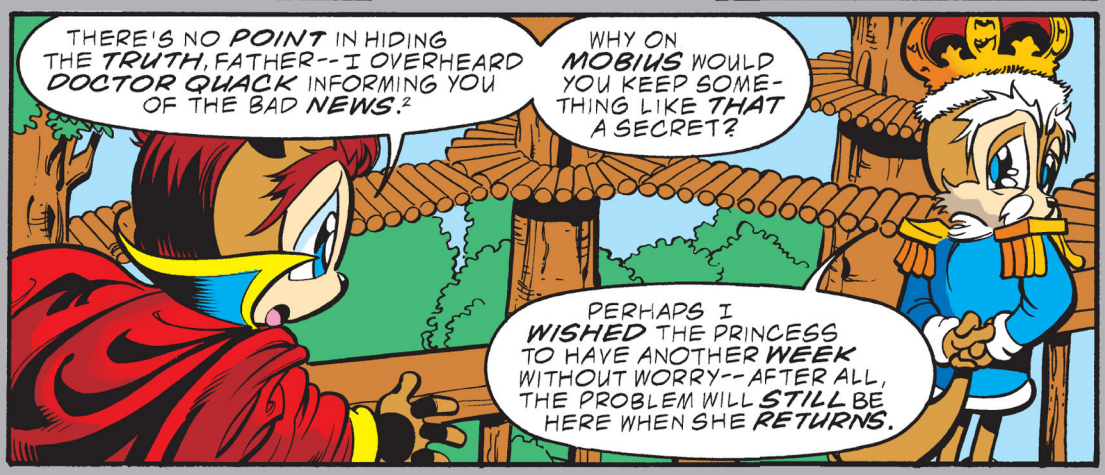

MINUTES LATER...
ARE YOU CERTAIN, SONIC?
HE'LL WANNA KNOW ABOUT THIS PRONTO, NATE...
...AND THERE HE IS! KING MAX! YOUR HIGHNESS! SIRE!
eh? SIR SONIC...?
IT'S ALL RIGHT, MEN... TAKE A BREAK. I'LL REQUIRE A MOMENT OR TWO.
WHAT IS IT, LAD?
TROUBLE--I THINK! NATE CAN EXPLAIN IT BETTER THAN I CAN!
THE TELECRATE'S RECEPTION WAS TOO GARBLED TO BE SURE, MAX, BUT I BELIEVE THAT DOCTOR ROBOTNIK AND HIS SHADOW-BOTS HAVE DISCOVERED...
...THE HIDDEN CITY OF THE ANCIENTS!

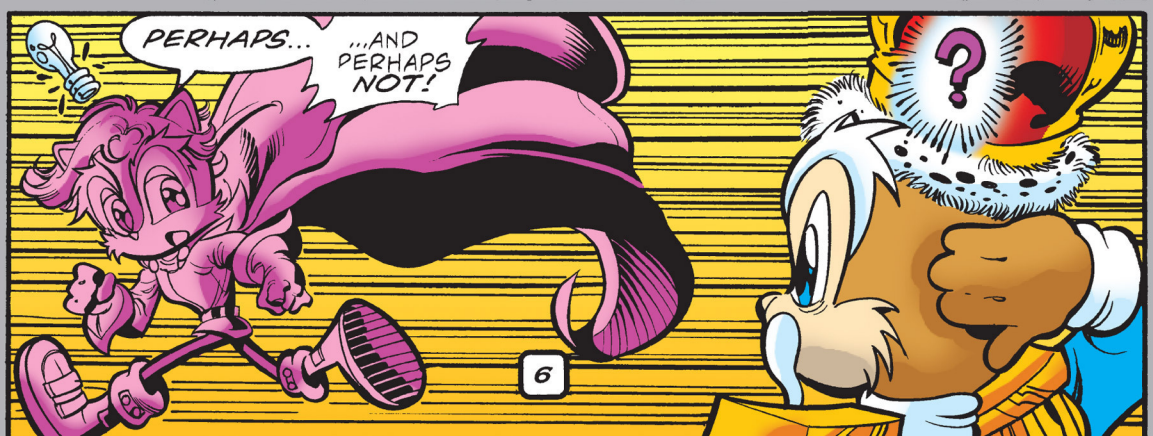

THE HIDDEN CITY OF THE ANCIENTS? I THOUGHT THAT WAS PART OF MOBIAN MYTHOLOGY, UNCLE NATE.
SO DID I... UNTIL I VISITED IT DURING MY GLOBETROTTING DAYS!
AN UNPOLLUTED ECOSYSTEM LIKE THAT NEEDS PROTECTION FROM THE WORLD IN GENERAL, BUT WHERE ROBOTNIK IS CONCERNED...
...IT REQUIRES MUCH, MUCH MORE!
I'M IN TOTAL AGREEMENT, OLD FRIEND -- THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT ROBOTNIK COULD BE COOKING UP THIS TIME!
...AND THE HIDDEN CITY NEEDS TO BE FOREWARNED. I WANT BOTH OF YOU TO DEPART FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.
WE'RE ON IT, YOUR HIGHNESS. Uhh... IS SOMETHING WRONG, SIRE? YOU LOOK KINDA OUT OF IT...
I-I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT ROBOTNIK SPREADING HIS EVIL INFLUENCE, SONIC.
YEAH, BUT--
YOU HAVE QUITE A TRIP AHEAD...
...SO I SUGGEST YOU GET A GOOD NIGHT'S REST.
WHY DO I GET THE FEELING THERE'S SOMETHING HE'S NOT TELLING ME?


THE NEXT MORNING...
RISE AND SHINE, SLEEPY-HEAD!
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US THAT YOU WERE HAVING FRIENDS OVER FOR BREAKFAST, SON?
Huh? WHADDYA MEAN, MOM N' DAD?
LIKE WHOAH--WAKIN' AND BAKIN'!
THAT'S WHAT YOUR FATHER AND I WERE TRYING TO TELL YOU, SONIC! YOUR FELLOW KNOTHOLE FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE HERE--
--AMY ROSE...
...BUNNY RABBOT...
...PRINCESS SALLY ACORN...
...MILES "TAILS" PROWER...
...AND ANTOINE D'COOLETTE!
WHY'RE YOU GUYS OVER SO EARLY, SAL?
WELL, I FIGURED WE SHOULD ALL GET A NUTRITIOUS MEAL...
...BEFORE HEADING OFF TO THE HIDDEN CITY OF THE ANCIENTS, SONIC. DAD HAS REQUESTED WE ACCOMPANY YOU ON THIS MISSION.


I KNOW I'M NOT AN OFFICAL FREEDOM FIGHTER...
...BUT CAN I GO TOO? PLEASE?
WELL... SEE...THE THING OF IT IS...
YOU'RE FAR TOO YOUNG, AMY --THIS ADVENTURE COULD BE DANGEROUS!
SORRY TO SAY IT, KIDDO, BUT THE PRINCESS IS RIGHT.
THEN WHY IS TAILS ALLOWED TO GO? HE AND I ARE BOTH THE SAME AGE!
THIS IS TRUE, AMY ROSE, BUT REMEMBER-- TAILS HAS FACED MANY MORE PERILS IN HIS LIFE THAN YOU HAVE.
WHY, HE WAS PIVOTAL IN THE DEFEAT OF THE OTHER-DIMENSIONAL WIZARD, IXIS NAUGUS'. AS A MATTER OF FACT--
DON'T WORRY, MISTER MORGAN...I UNDERSTAND. I WISH I COULD GO, BUT I CAN'T. GUESS I'LL SEE EVERYONE ...LATER.
AYYYYY-MEEEEE!


AND WAITING IN THE WINGS...
YOUR SISTER APPEARS TO BE THE MOST CAREFREE I'VE SEEN HER IN QUITE SOME TIME, PRINCE ELIAS...
...WHICH IS GOOD. SALLY WILL NEED TO MAINTAIN HER FOCUS WHILE SHE AND HER FRIENDS REPRESENT OUR KINGDOM ON THIS JOURNEY.
IS THAT WHY YOU HAVEN'T TOLD HER-- OR ME--THAT MOTHER'S ILLNESS HAS WORSENED?
W-WHAT EVER DO YOU MEAN, SON?


THERE'S NO POINT IN HIDING THE TRUTH, FATHER--I OVERHEARD DOCTOR QUACK INFORMING YOU OF THE BAD NEWS.[2]
WHY ON MOBIUS WOULD YOU KEEP SOMETHING LIKE THAT A SECRET?
PERHAPS I WISHED THE PRINCESS TO HAVE ANOTHER WEEK WITHOUT WORRY--AFTER ALL, THE PROBLEM WILL STILL BE HERE WHEN SHE RETURNS.


PERHAPS...
...AND PERHAPS NOT!
?

SCANT SECONDS LATER...
I DON'T KNOW WHY ANYBODY DIDN'T THINK OF THIS BEFORE!
THERE IT IS-- THE ROYAL RELIQUARY![3]
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, THAT'S WHERE THE MAGICAL RING OF ACORNS IS NOW STORED.
ACCORDING TO NATE, ALL IT REQUIRES IS A WISH UPON THE RING FROM SOMEONE TRUE OF HEART...
...AND THAT MOBIAN'S GREATEST DESIRE WILL BECOME REALITY. THERE IS A CURE FOR MOTHER AFTER--
-AMY?!
Oh MY GOODNESS!
WHAT'S HAPPENING THERE?!
TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

Born to the most noble of Echidna houses, the latest to continue the family heritage and responsibility as Guardian of The Floating Island, defender of all against the forces of evil from the world beyond as well as those who would threaten from within!

ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!

KRA-KOOOM!

AS FAR AS I CAN REMEMBER, I'VE BEEN LIVING HERE ON THIS *DARK ISLAND.*

ALWAYS GUARDING THE *MASTER EMERALD* FROM *ANYTHING* THAT CAN HARM IT.

I DON'T KNOW WHY I WAS GIVEN THIS JOB, WHY IT IS *MY FATE*--

-- DESTINED TO BE HERE *FOREVER!!!*

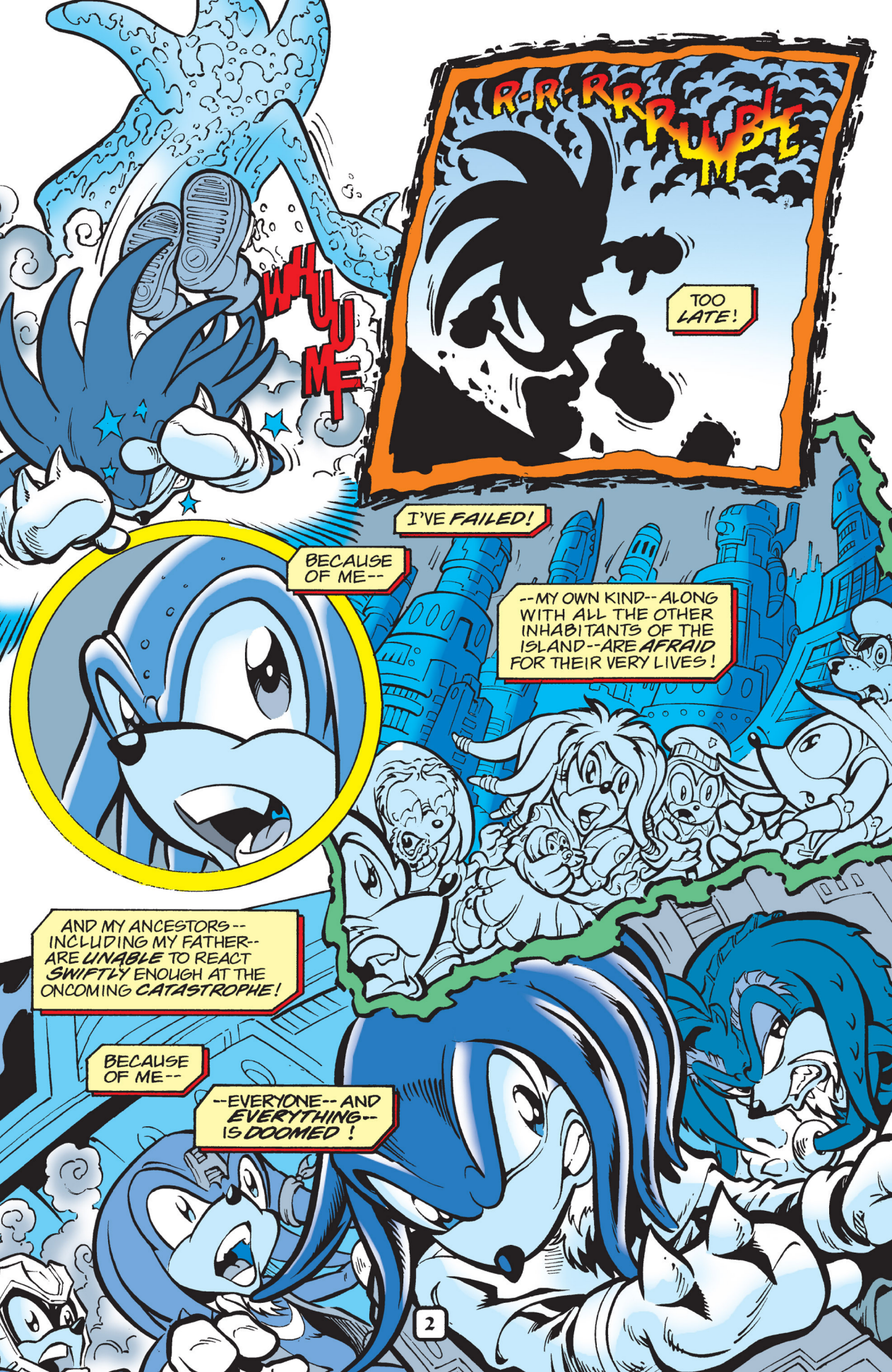
I SENSE *DANGER* DRAWING NEAR!

THE MASTER *EMERALD!*

THAT--THAT *THING*-- IT'S *ABSORBING* THE EMERALD!

THOUGH I SENSE NO *HOSTILE* INTENT--

--I MUST ACT... NOW!


WHUMF
R-R-RR RUMBLE
TOO LATE!
I'VE FAILED!
BECAUSE OF ME--
--MY OWN KIND--ALONG WITH ALL THE OTHER INHABITANTS OF THE ISLAND--ARE AFRAID FOR THEIR VERY LIVES!
AND MY ANCESTORS--INCLUDING MY FATHER--ARE UNABLE TO REACT SWIFTLY ENOUGH AT THE ONCOMING CATASTROPHE!
BECAUSE OF ME--
--EVERYONE--AND EVERYTHING--IS DOOMED!

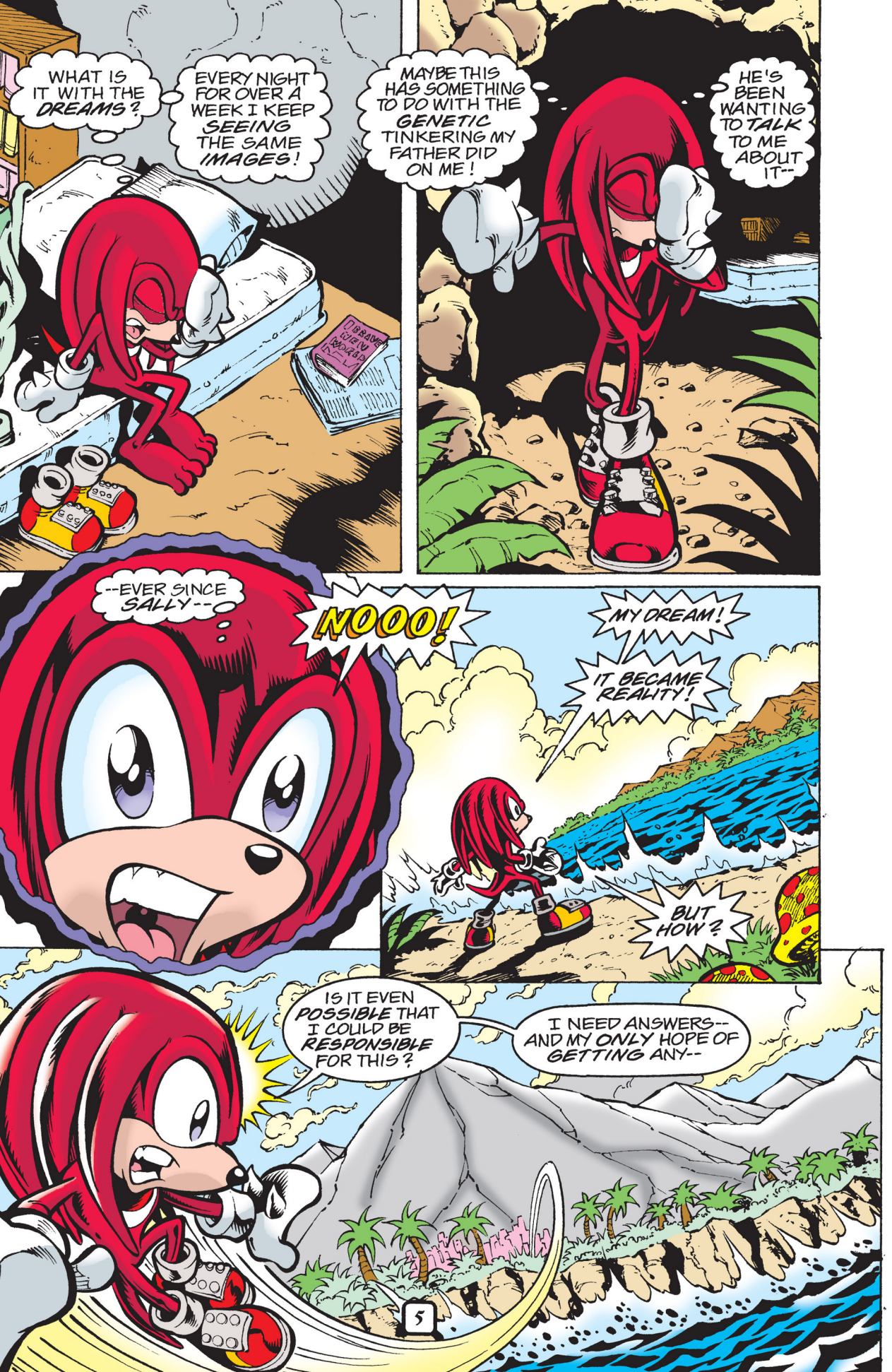
WITHOUT THE MASTER EMERALD'S POWER --

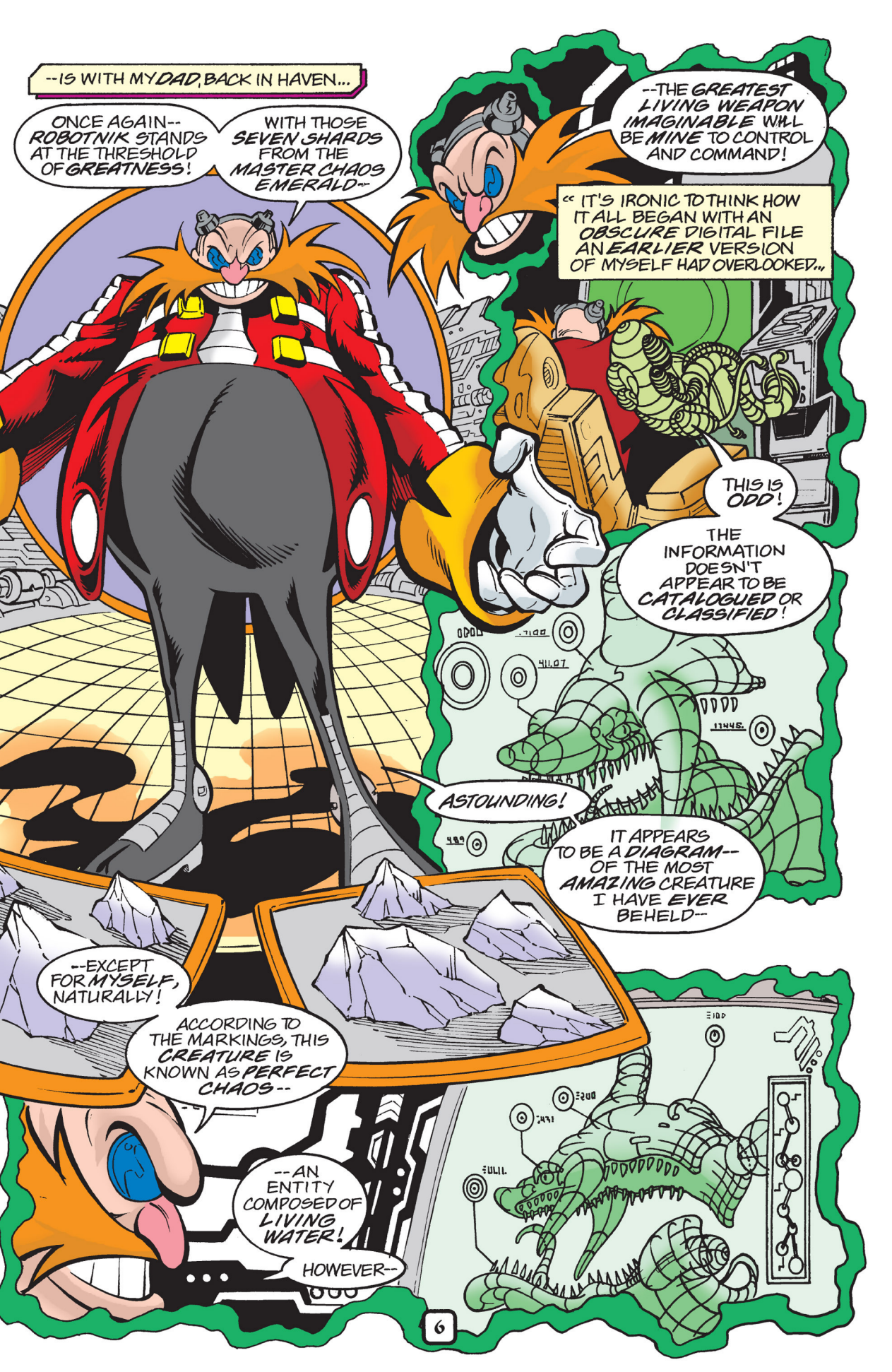
-- THIS WHOLE ISLAND WILL *FALL INTO THE OCEAN!*

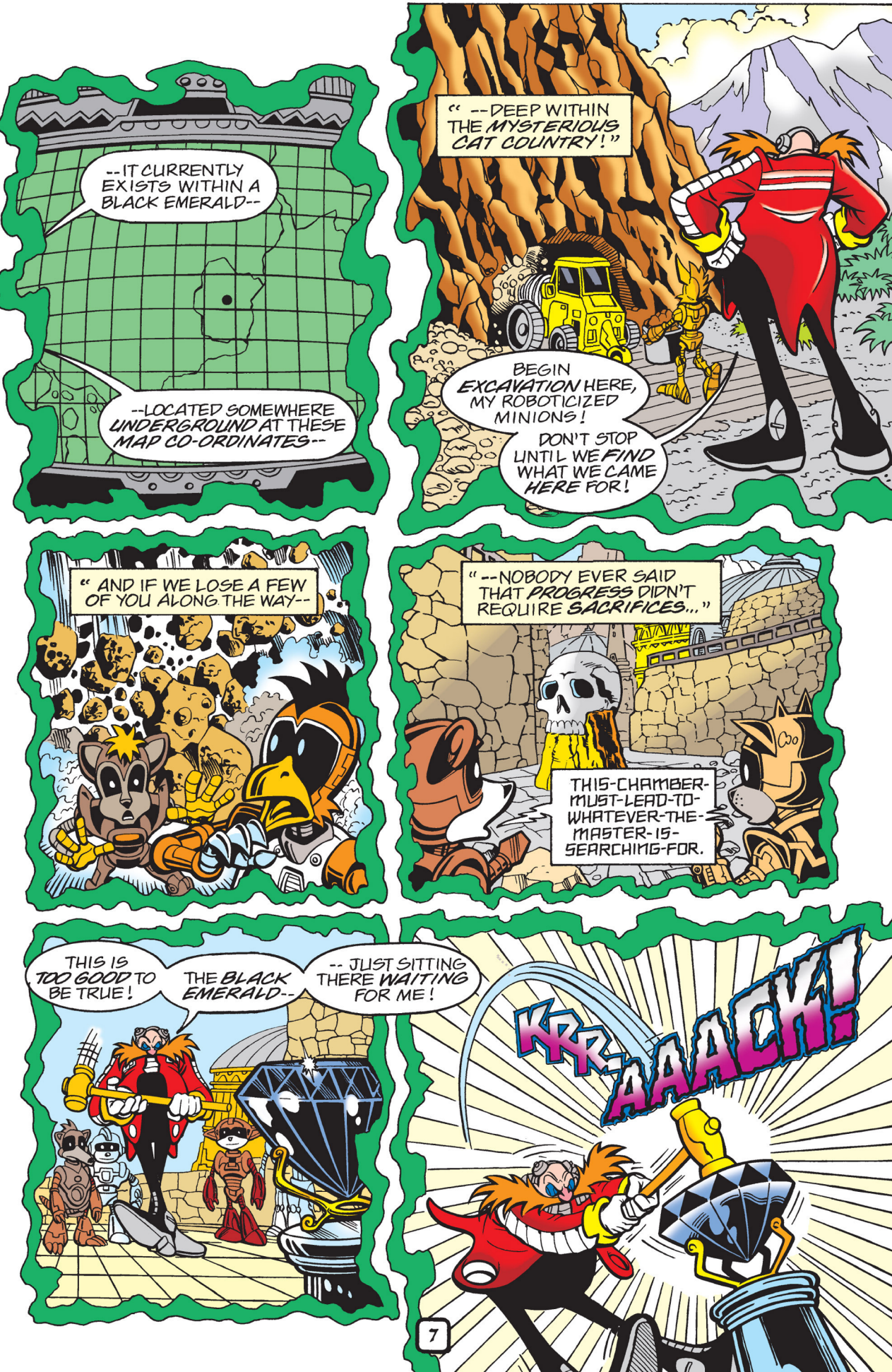
EEYAAAHH!!

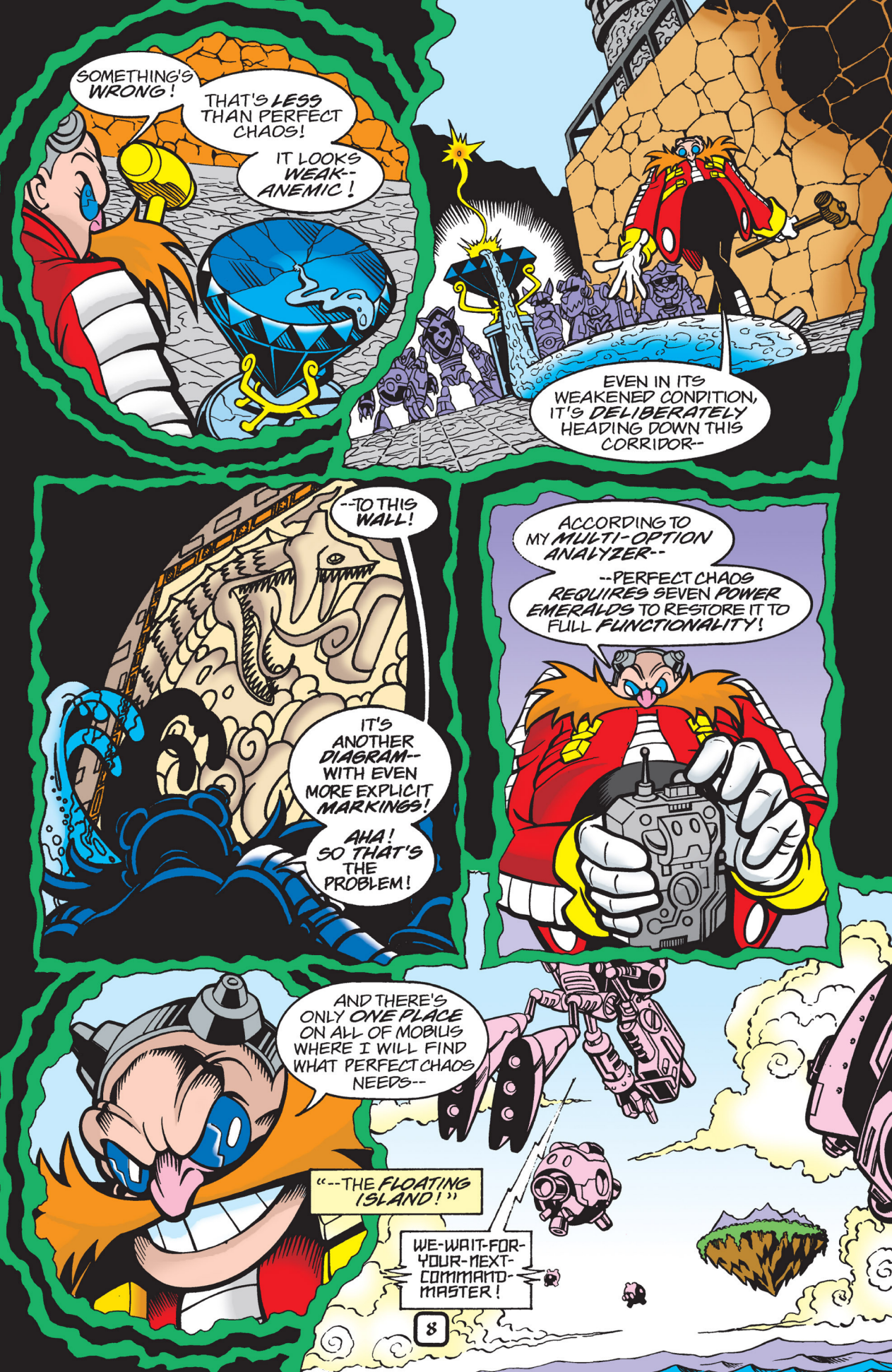
KNUCKLES IN THE ECHIDNA THE CHAOS FACTOR

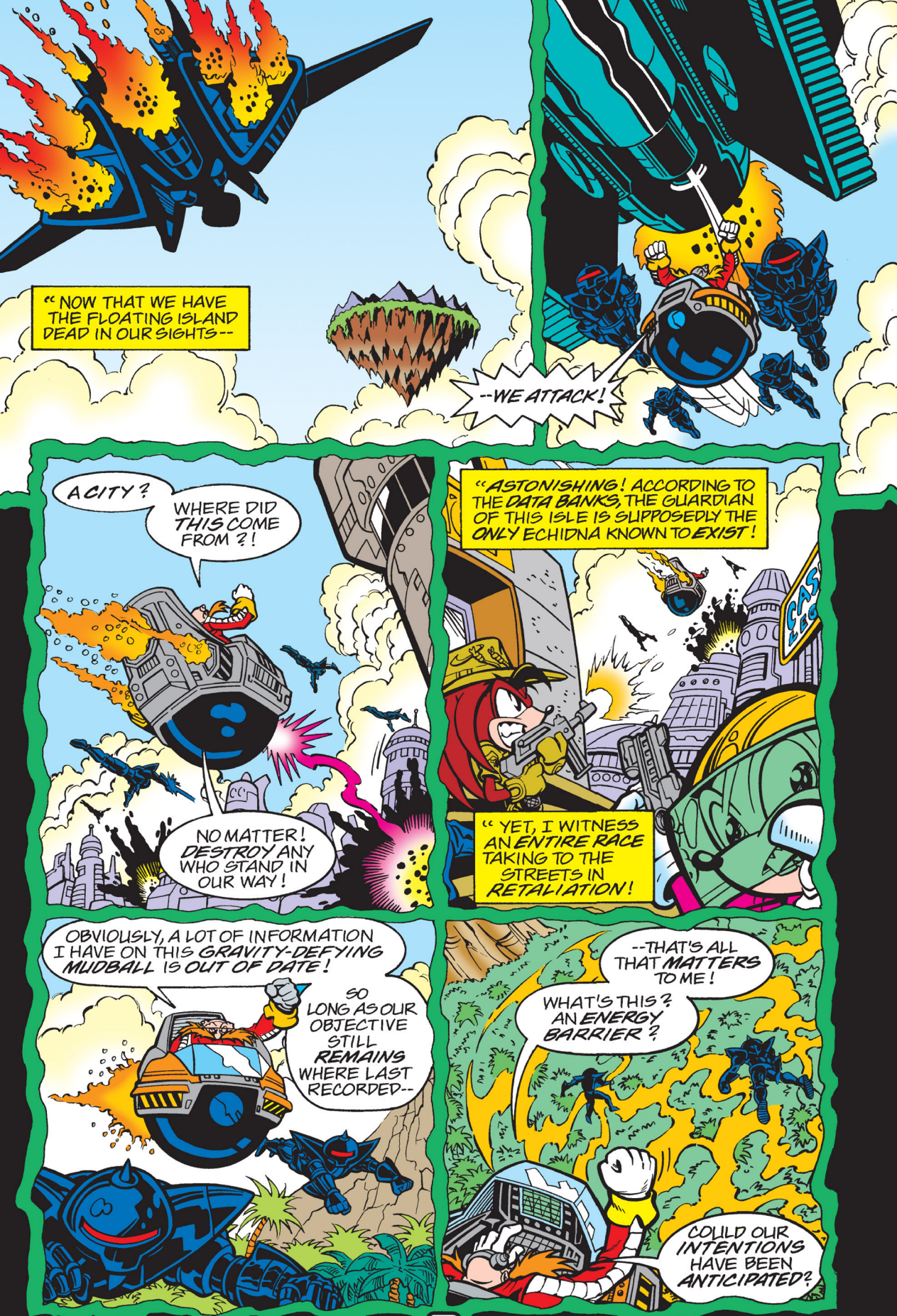
KEN PENDERS: WRITER
STEVEN BUTLER: PENCILER
PAM EKLUND: INKER
FRANK GAGLIARDO: COLORIST
VICKIE WILLIAMS: LETTERER
J.F. GABRIE: STORY OUTLINE\EDITOR\ART DIRECTOR

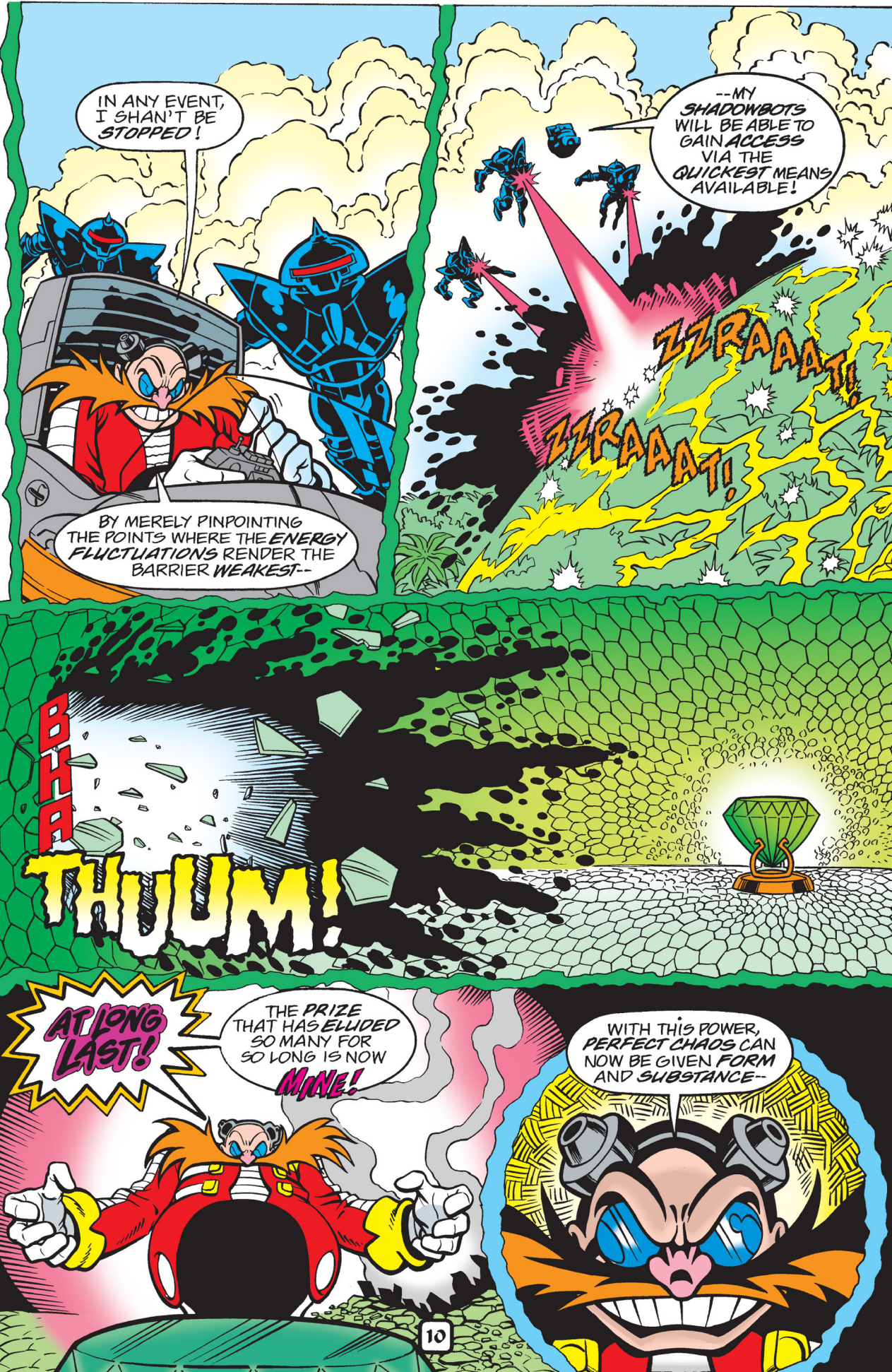

WHAT IS IT WITH THE DREAMS?
EVERY NIGHT FOR OVER A WEEK I KEEP SEEING THE SAME IMAGES!
MAYBE THIS HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE GENETIC TINKERING MY FATHER DID ON ME!
HE'S BEEN WANTING TO TALK TO ME ABOUT IT--
--EVER SINCE SALLY--
NOOO!
MY DREAM!
IT BECAME REALITY!
BUT HOW?
IS IT EVEN POSSIBLE THAT I COULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS?
I NEED ANSWERS-- AND MY ONLY HOPE OF GETTING ANY--

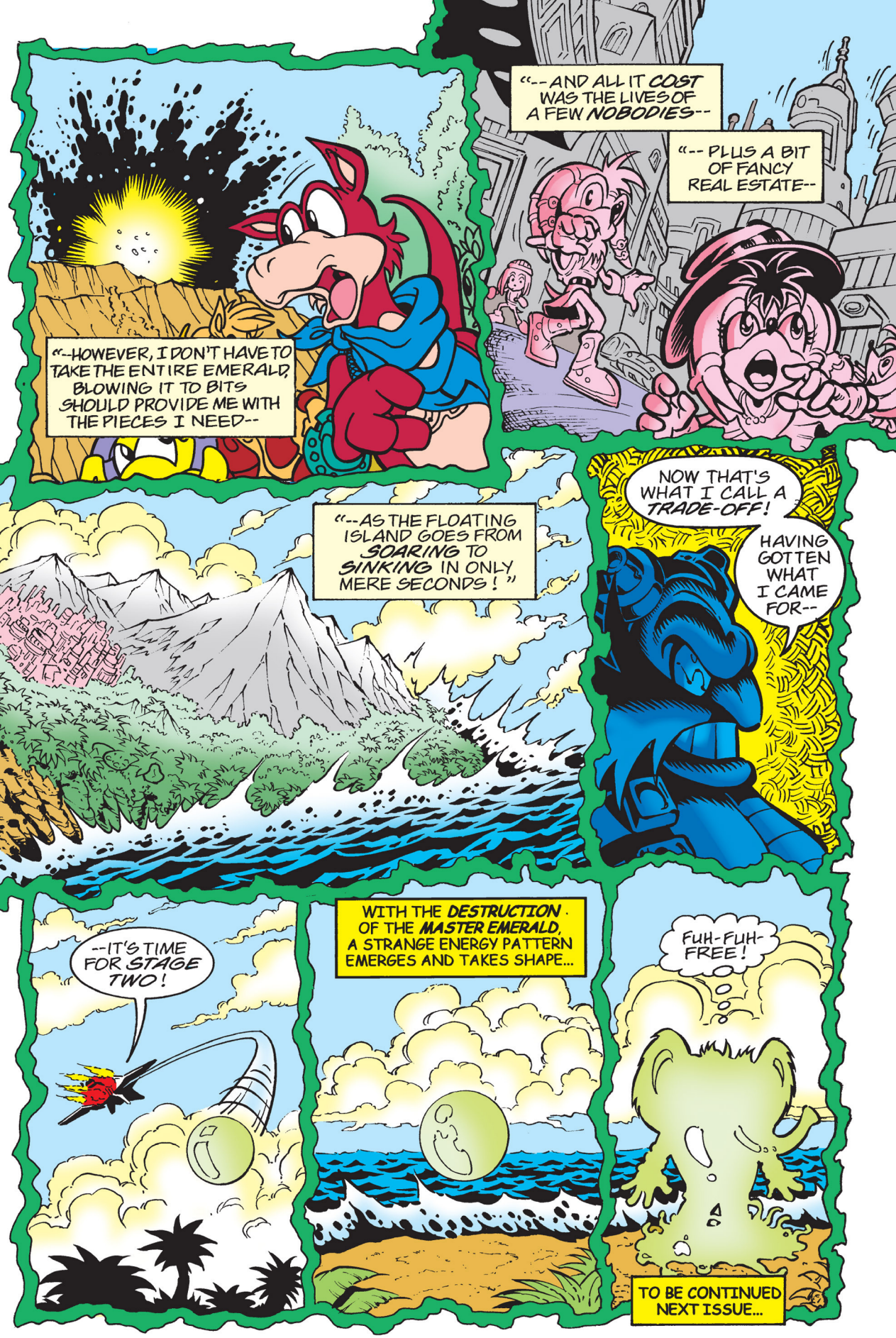

--IS WITH MY DAD, BACK IN HAVEN...
ONCE AGAIN-- ROBOTNIK STANDS AT THE THRESHOLD OF GREATNESS!
WITH THOSE SEVEN SHARDS FROM THE MASTER CHAOS EMERALD--
--THE GREATEST LIVING WEAPON IMAGINABLE WILL BE MINE TO CONTROL AND COMMAND!
« IT'S IRONIC TO THINK HOW IT ALL BEGAN WITH AN OBSCURE DIGITAL FILE AN EARLIER VERSION OF MYSELF HAD OVERLOOKED...
THIS IS ODD!
THE INFORMATION DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE CATALOGUED OR CLASSIFIED!
ASTOUNDING!
IT APPEARS TO BE A DIAGRAM-- OF THE MOST AMAZING CREATURE I HAVE EVER BEHELD--
--EXCEPT FOR MYSELF, NATURALLY!
ACCORDING TO THE MARKINGS, THIS CREATURE IS KNOWN AS PERFECT CHAOS--
--AN ENTITY COMPOSED OF LIVING WATER!
HOWEVER--

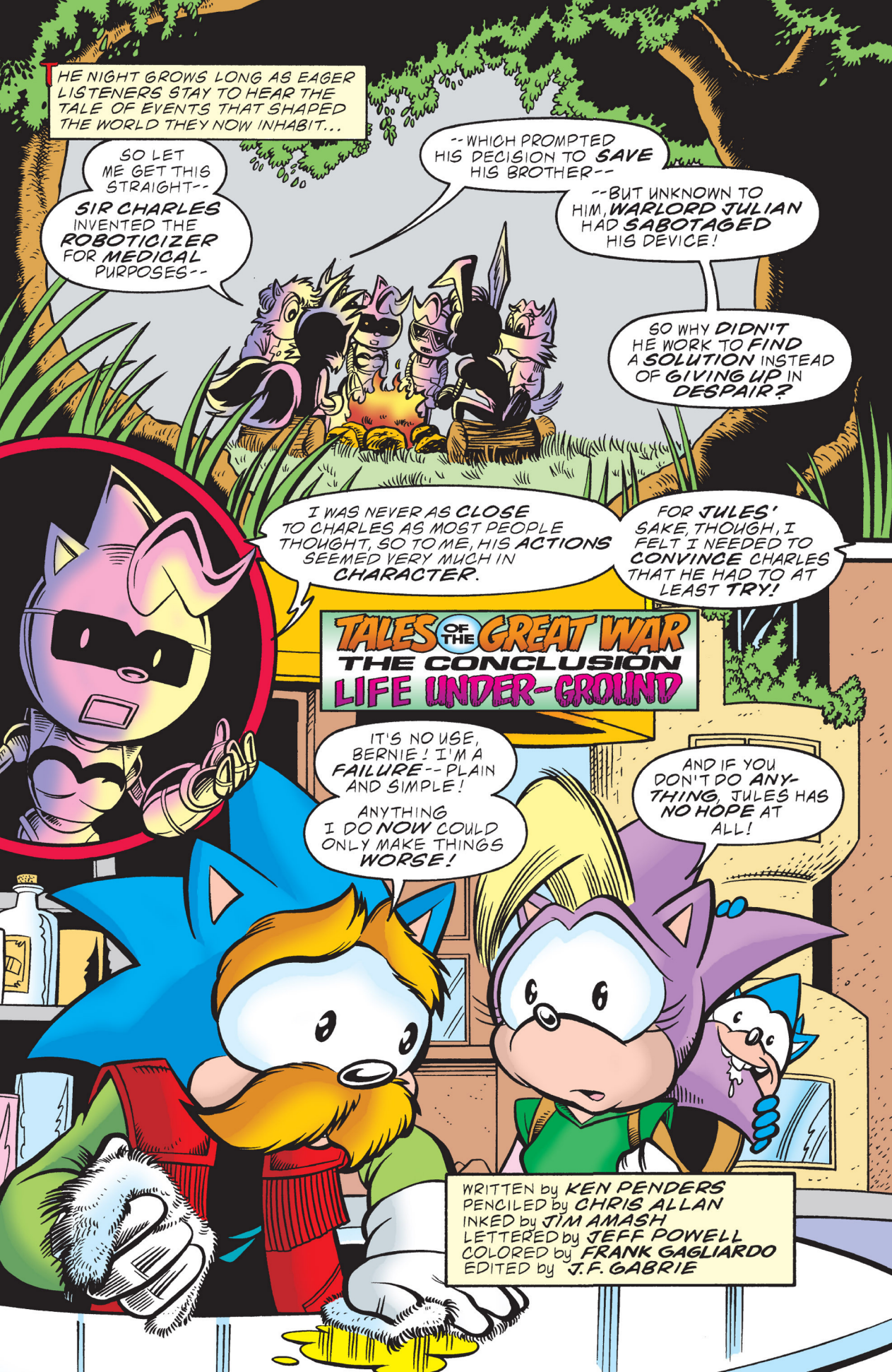

--IT CURRENTLY EXISTS WITHIN A BLACK EMERALD--
--LOCATED SOMEWHERE UNDERGROUND AT THESE MAP CO-ORDINATES--
" --DEEP WITHIN THE MYSTERIOUS CAT COUNTRY!"
BEGIN EXCAVATION HERE, MY ROBOTICIZED MINIONS!
DON'T STOP UNTIL WE FIND WHAT WE CAME HERE FOR!
" AND IF WE LOSE A FEW OF YOU ALONG THE WAY--
" --NOBODY EVER SAID THAT PROGRESS DIDN'T REQUIRE SACRIFICES..."
THIS-CHAMBER-MUST-LEAD-TO-WHATEVER-THE-MASTER-IS-SEARCHING-FOR.
THIS IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!
THE BLACK EMERALD--
-- JUST SITTING THERE WAITING FOR ME!
KRR-AAACK!

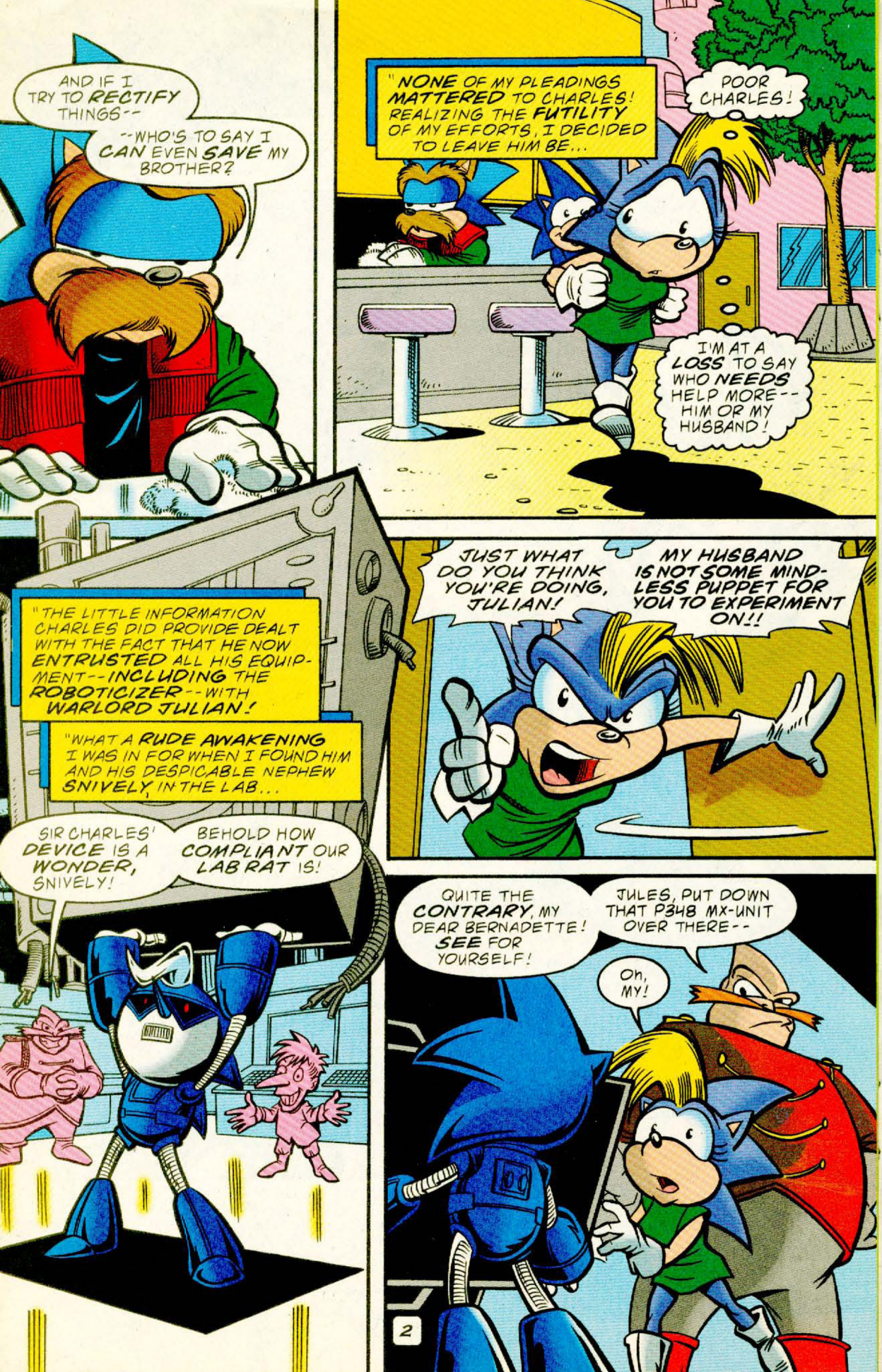

SOMETHING'S WRONG!
THAT'S LESS THAN PERFECT CHAOS!
IT LOOKS WEAK-- ANEMIC!
EVEN IN ITS WEAKENED CONDITION, IT'S DELIBERATELY HEADING DOWN THIS CORRIDOR--
--TO THIS WALL!
IT'S ANOTHER DIAGRAM-- WITH EVEN MORE EXPLICIT MARKINGS!
AHA! SO THAT'S THE PROBLEM!
ACCORDING TO MY MULTI-OPTION ANALYZER--
--PERFECT CHAOS REQUIRES SEVEN POWER EMERALDS TO RESTORE IT TO FULL FUNCTIONALITY!
AND THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE ON ALL OF MOBIUS WHERE I WILL FIND WHAT PERFECT CHAOS NEEDS--
"--THE FLOATING ISLAND!"
WE-WAIT-FOR-YOUR-NEXT-COMMAND-MASTER!
8

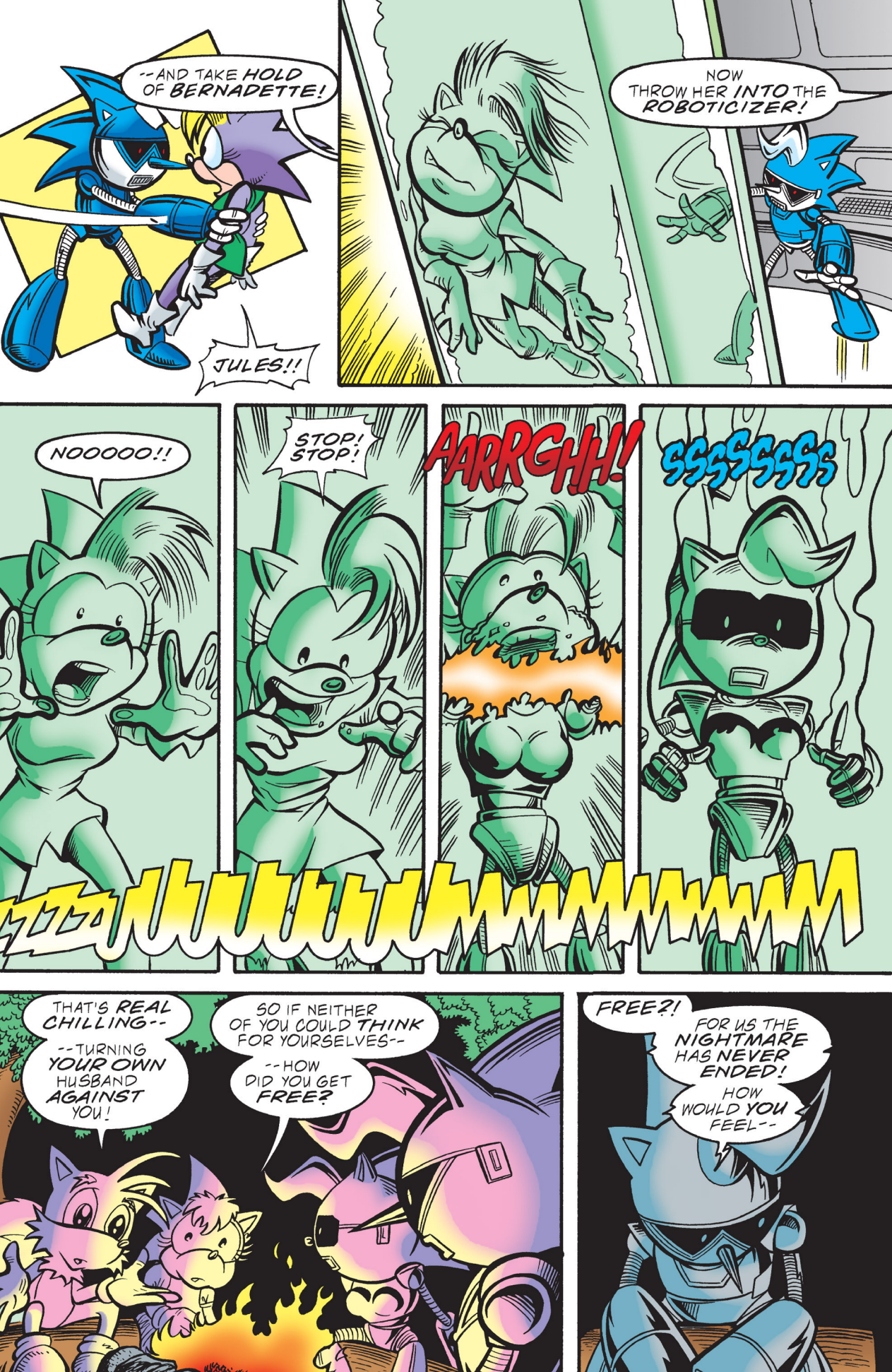

"NOW THAT WE HAVE THE FLOATING ISLAND DEAD IN OUR SIGHTS--
--WE ATTACK!
A CITY?
WHERE DID THIS COME FROM?!
NO MATTER! DESTROY ANY WHO STAND IN OUR WAY!
"ASTONISHING! ACCORDING TO THE DATA BANKS, THE GUARDIAN OF THIS ISLE IS SUPPOSEDLY THE ONLY ECHIDNA KNOWN TO EXIST!
"YET, I WITNESS AN ENTIRE RACE TAKING TO THE STREETS IN RETALIATION!
OBVIOUSLY, A LOT OF INFORMATION I HAVE ON THIS GRAVITY-DEFYING MUDBALL IS OUT OF DATE!
SO LONG AS OUR OBJECTIVE STILL REMAINS WHERE LAST RECORDED--
--THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS TO ME!
WHAT'S THIS? AN ENERGY BARRIER?
COULD OUR INTENTIONS HAVE BEEN ANTICIPATED?

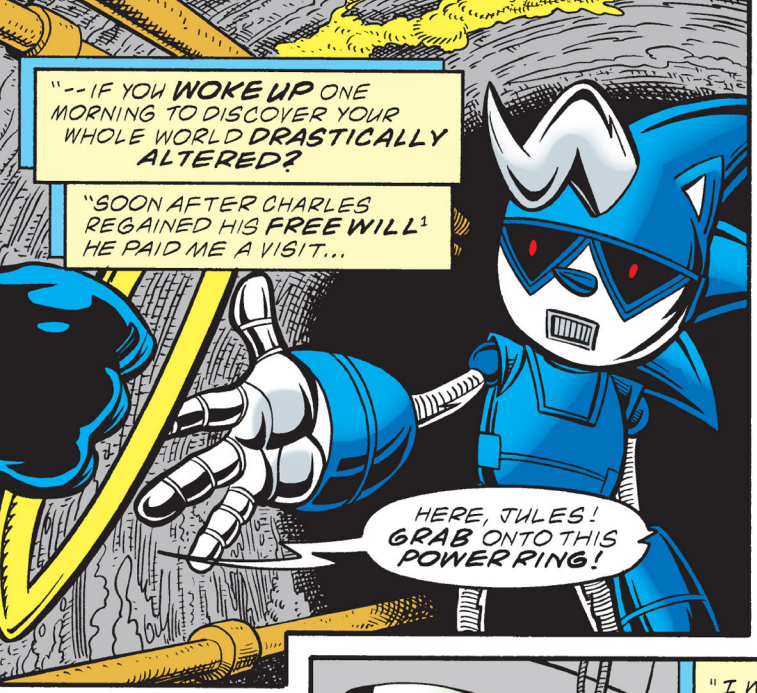

IN ANY EVENT, I SHAN'T BE STOPPED!
BY MERELY PINPOINTING THE POINTS WHERE THE ENERGY FLUCTUATIONS RENDER THE BARRIER WEAKEST--
--MY SHADOWBOTS WILL BE ABLE TO GAIN ACCESS VIA THE QUICKEST MEANS AVAILABLE!
ZZRAAAT!
ZZRAAAT!
BHA
THUUM!
AT LONG LAST!
THE PRIZE THAT HAS ELUDED SO MANY FOR SO LONG IS NOW MINE!
WITH THIS POWER, PERFECT CHAOS CAN NOW BE GIVEN FORM AND SUBSTANCE--

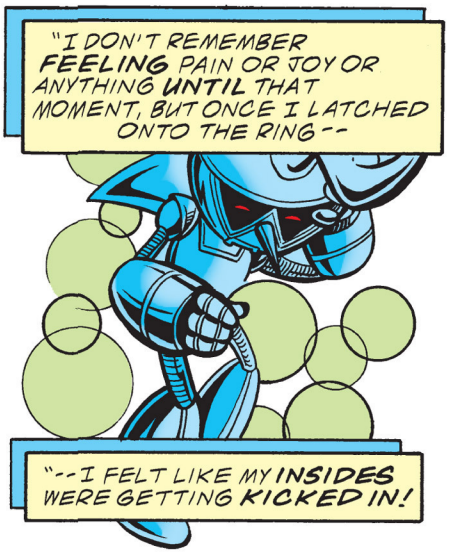

"--HOWEVER, I DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THE ENTIRE EMERALD, BLOWING IT TO BITS SHOULD PROVIDE ME WITH THE PIECES I NEED--
"--AND ALL IT COST WAS THE LIVES OF A FEW NOBODIES--
"-- PLUS A BIT OF FANCY REAL ESTATE--
"--AS THE FLOATING ISLAND GOES FROM SOARING TO SINKING IN ONLY MERE SECONDS!"
NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL A TRADE-OFF!
HAVING GOTTEN WHAT I CAME FOR--
--IT'S TIME FOR STAGE TWO!
WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF THE MASTER EMERALD, A STRANGE ENERGY PATTERN EMERGES AND TAKES SHAPE...
FUH-FUH-FREE!
TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

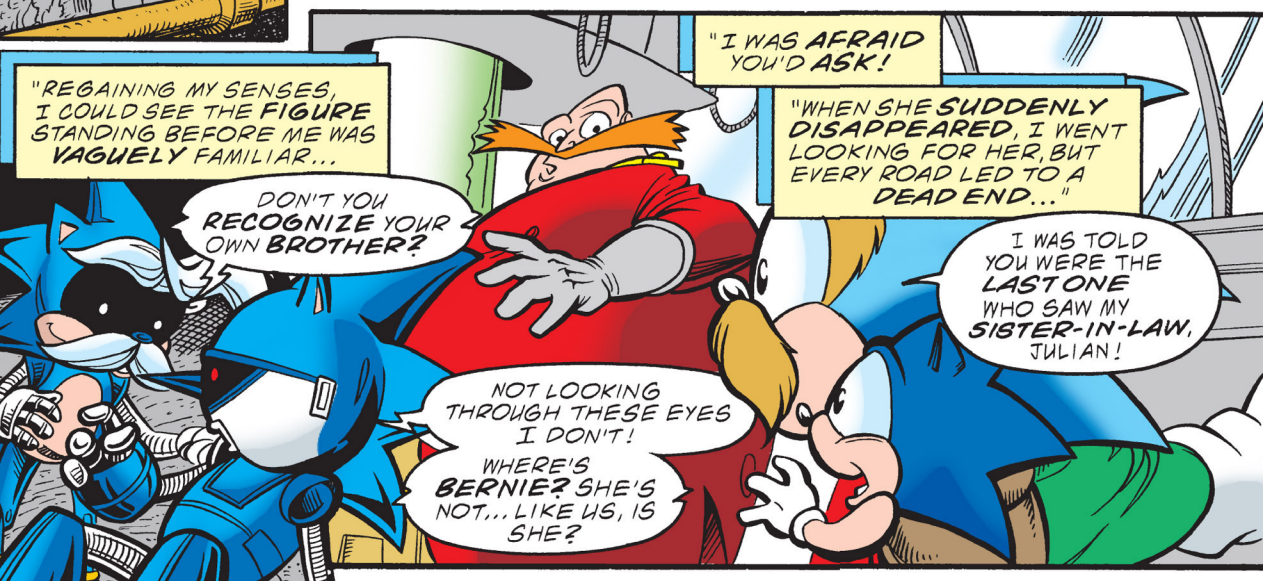

THE NIGHT GROWS LONG AS EAGER LISTENERS STAY TO HEAR THE TALE OF EVENTS THAT SHAPED THE WORLD THEY NOW INHABIT...
SO LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT-- SIR CHARLES INVENTED THE ROBOTICIZER FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES--
--WHICH PROMPTED HIS DECISION TO SAVE HIS BROTHER--
--BUT UNKNOWN TO HIM, WARLORD JULIAN HAD SABOTAGED HIS DEVICE!
SO WHY DIDN'T HE WORK TO FIND A SOLUTION INSTEAD OF GIVING UP IN DESPAIR?
I WAS NEVER AS CLOSE TO CHARLES AS MOST PEOPLE THOUGHT, SO TO ME, HIS ACTIONS SEEMED VERY MUCH IN CHARACTER.
FOR JULES' SAKE, THOUGH, I FELT I NEEDED TO CONVINCE CHARLES THAT HE HAD TO AT LEAST TRY!
TALES OF THE GREAT WAR
THE CONCLUSION
LIFE UNDER-GROUND
IT'S NO USE, BERNIE! I'M A FAILURE-- PLAIN AND SIMPLE!
ANYTHING I DO NOW COULD ONLY MAKE THINGS WORSE!
AND IF YOU DON'T DO ANY-THING, JULES HAS NO HOPE AT ALL!
WRITTEN by KEN PENDERS
PENCILED by CHRIS ALLAN
INKED by JIM AMASH
LETTERED by JEFF POWELL
COLORED by FRANK GAGLIARDO
EDITED by J.F. GABRIE

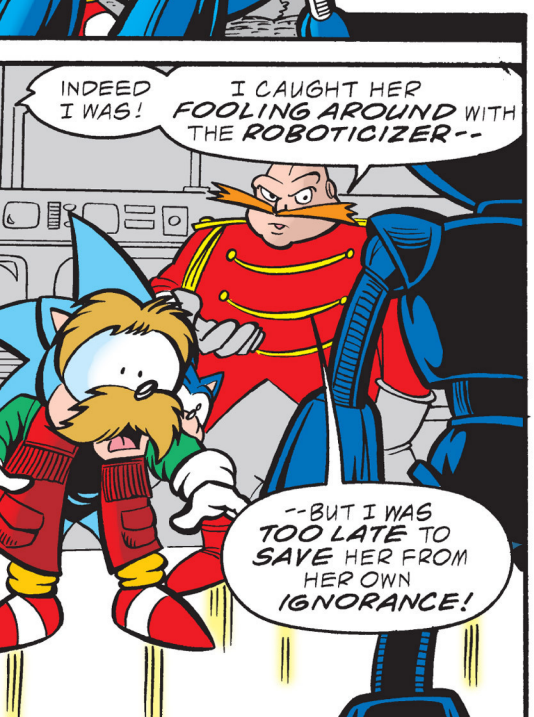

AND IF I TRY TO RECTIFY THINGS--
--WHO'S TO SAY I CAN EVEN SAVE MY BROTHER?
"NONE OF MY PLEADINGS MATTERED TO CHARLES! REALIZING THE FUTILITY OF MY EFFORTS, I DECIDED TO LEAVE HIM BE...
POOR CHARLES!
I'M AT A LOSS TO SAY WHO NEEDS HELP MORE--HIM OR MY HUSBAND!
"THE LITTLE INFORMATION CHARLES DID PROVIDE DEALT WITH THE FACT THAT HE NOW ENTRUSTED ALL HIS EQUIPMENT--INCLUDING THE ROBOTICIZER--WITH WARLORD JULIAN!
"WHAT A RUDE AWAKENING I WAS IN FOR WHEN I FOUND HIM AND HIS DESPICABLE NEPHEW SNIVELY IN THE LAB...
JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, JULIAN!
MY HUSBAND IS NOT SOME MINDLESS PUPPET FOR YOU TO EXPERIMENT ON!!
SIR CHARLES' DEVICE IS A WONDER, SNIVELY!
BEHOLD HOW COMPLIANT OUR LAB RAT IS!
QUITE THE CONTRARY, MY DEAR BERNADETTE! SEE FOR YOURSELF!
JULES, PUT DOWN THAT P348 MX-UNIT OVER THERE--
Oh, MY!

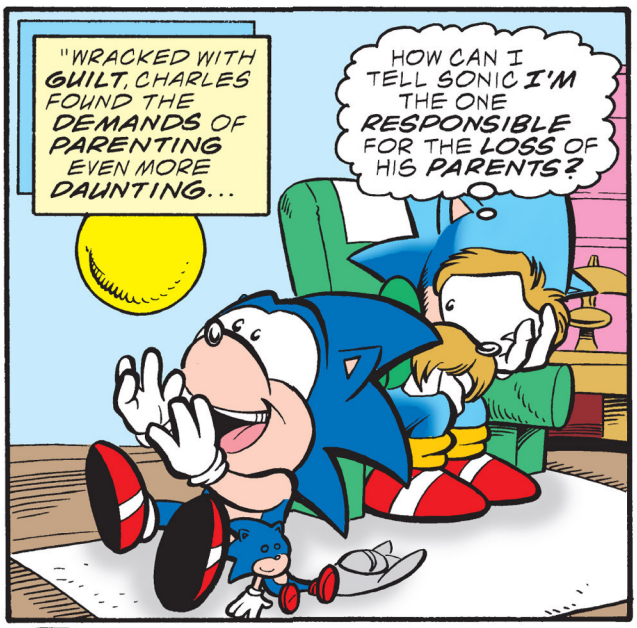

--AND TAKE HOLD OF BERNADETTE!
JULES!!
NOW THROW HER INTO THE ROBOTICIZER!
NOOOOO!!
STOP! STOP!
AARRGHH!
SSSSSSSS
THAT'S REAL CHILLING--
--TURNING YOUR OWN HUSBAND AGAINST YOU!
SO IF NEITHER OF YOU COULD THINK FOR YOURSELVES--
--HOW DID YOU GET FREE?
FREE?!
FOR US THE NIGHTMARE HAS NEVER ENDED!
HOW WOULD YOU FEEL--

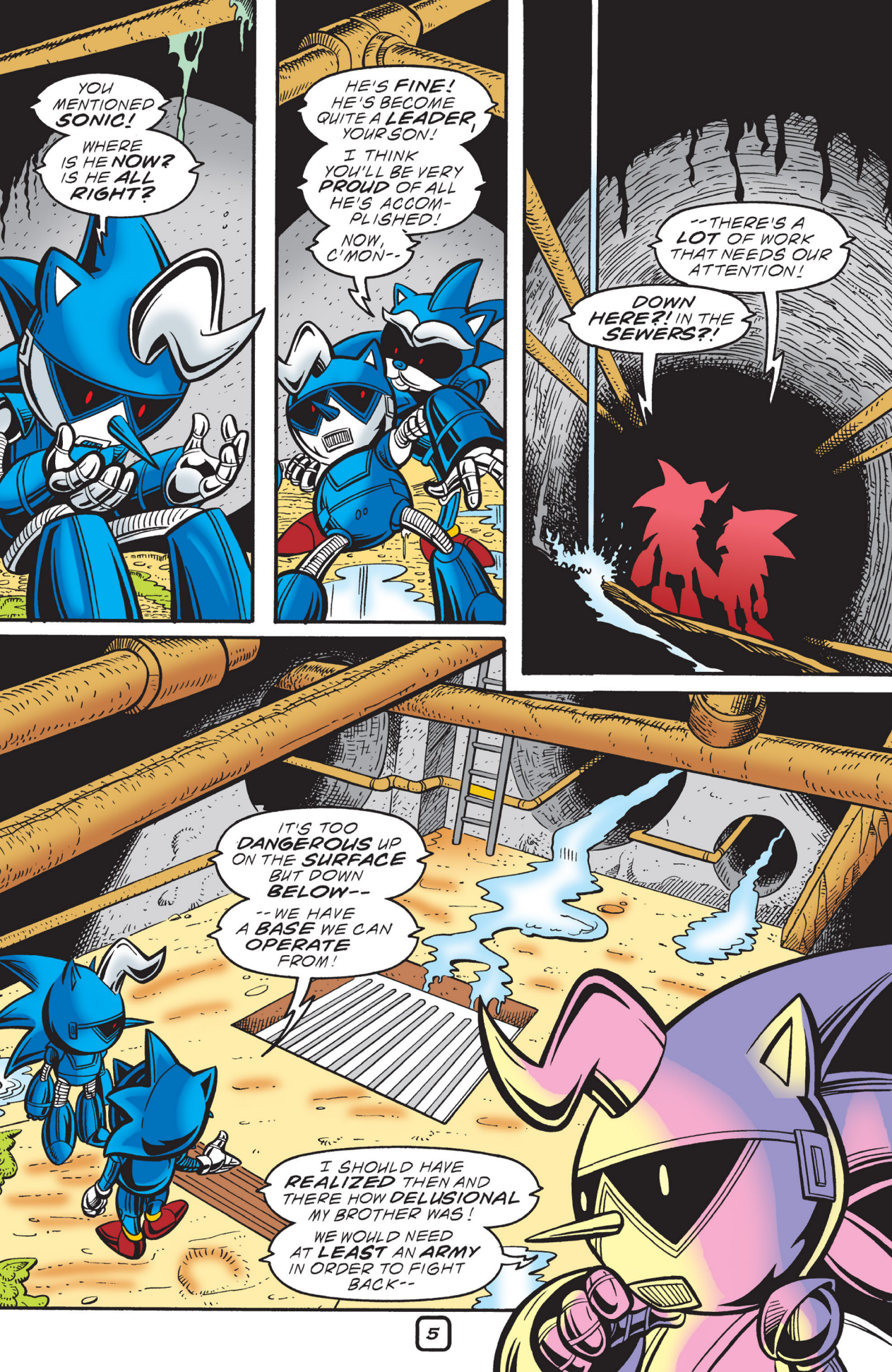

"--IF YOU WOKE UP ONE MORNING TO DISCOVER YOUR WHOLE WORLD DRASTICALLY ALTERED?
"SOON AFTER CHARLES REGAINED HIS FREE WILL[1] HE PAID ME A VISIT...
HERE, JULES! GRAB ONTO THIS POWER RING!

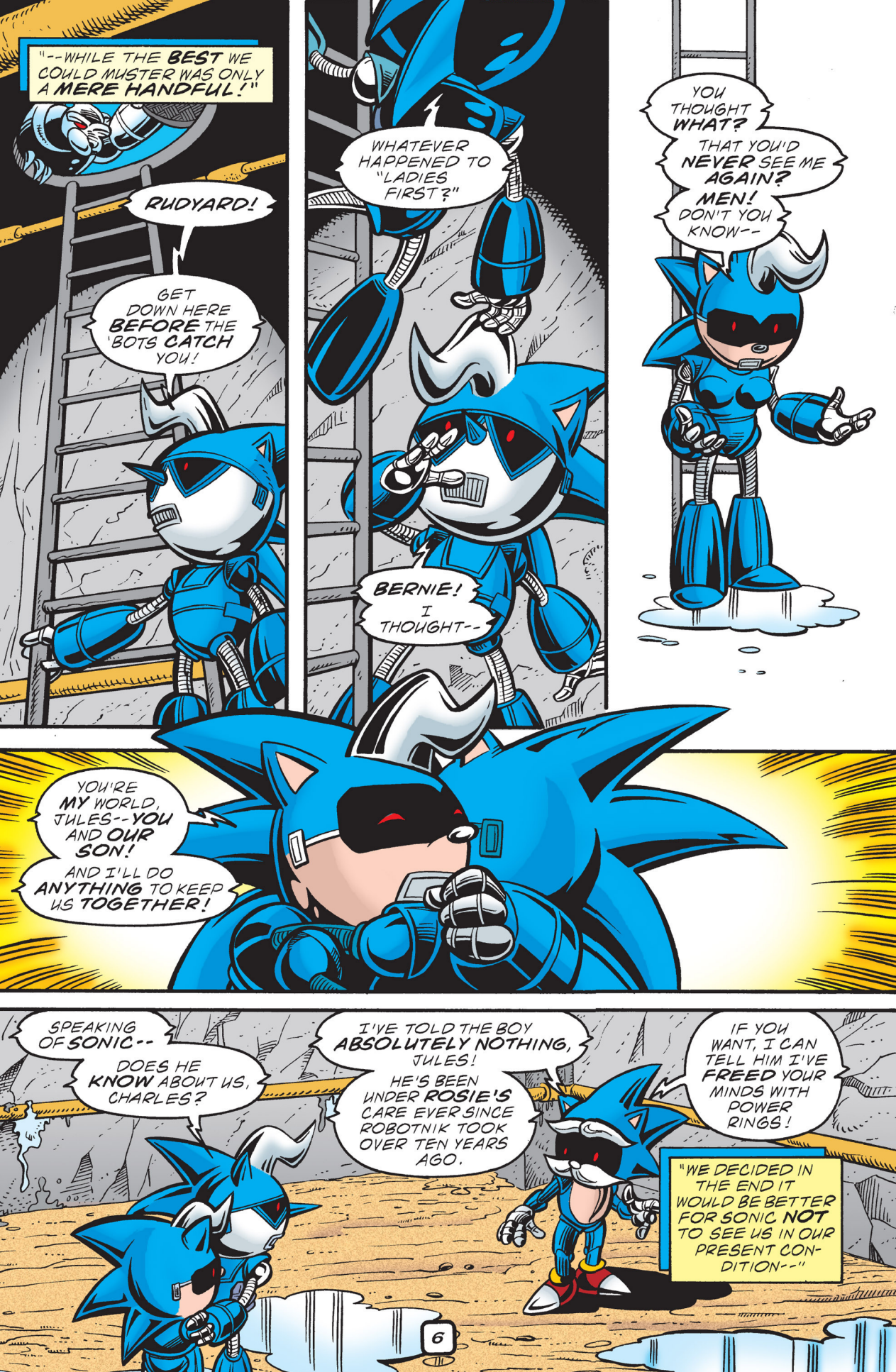

"I DON'T REMEMBER FEELING PAIN OR JOY OR ANYTHING UNTIL THAT MOMENT, BUT ONCE I LATCHED ONTO THE RING--
"--I FELT LIKE MY INSIDES WERE GETTING KICKED IN!

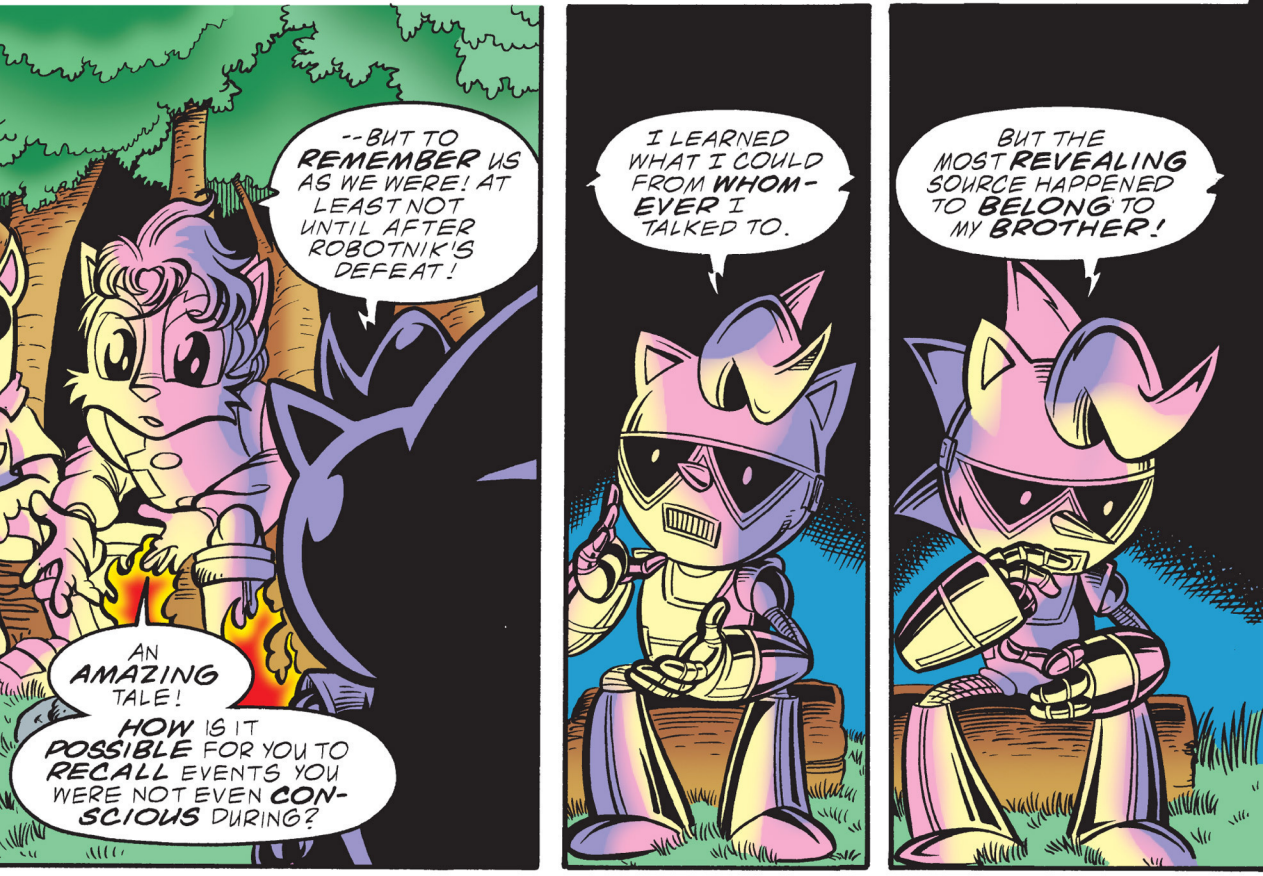

"REGAINING MY SENSES, I COULD SEE THE FIGURE STANDING BEFORE ME WAS VAGUELY FAMILIAR...
DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE YOUR OWN BROTHER?
"I WAS AFRAID YOU'D ASK!
"WHEN SHE SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED, I WENT LOOKING FOR HER, BUT EVERY ROAD LED TO A DEAD END..."
I WAS TOLD YOU WERE THE LAST ONE WHO SAW MY SISTER-IN-LAW, JULIAN!
NOT LOOKING THROUGH THESE EYES I DON'T!
WHERE'S BERNIE? SHE'S NOT... LIKE US, IS SHE?

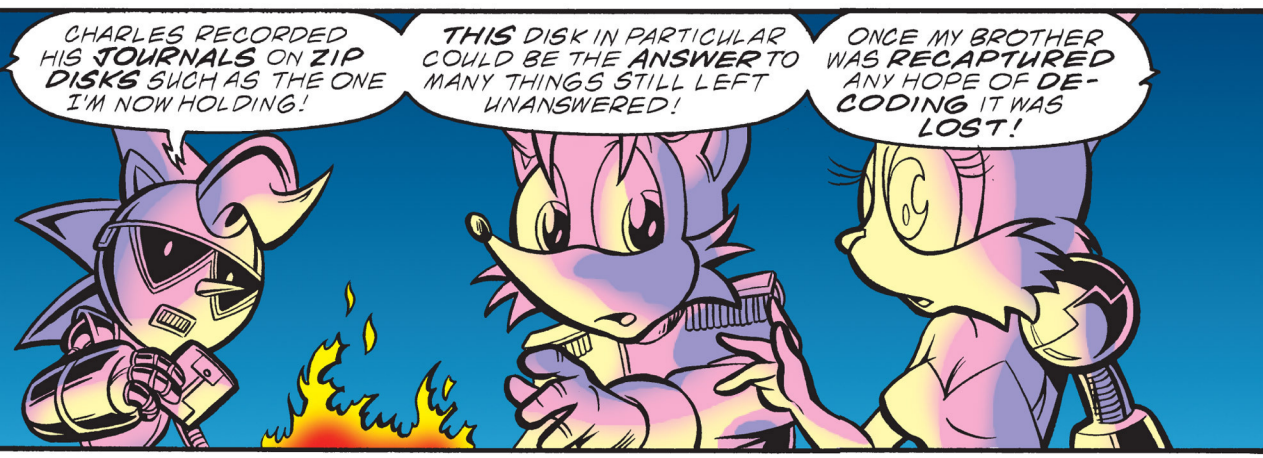

INDEED I WAS!
I CAUGHT HER FOOLING AROUND WITH THE ROBOTICIZER--
--BUT I WAS TOO LATE TO SAVE HER FROM HER OWN IGNORANCE!

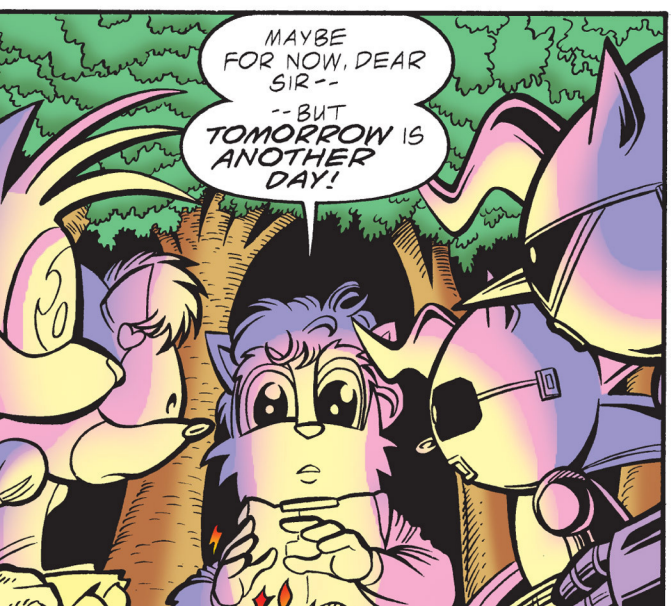

"WRACKED WITH GUILT, CHARLES FOUND THE DEMANDS OF PARENTING EVEN MORE DAUNTING...
HOW CAN I TELL SONIC I'M THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LOSS OF HIS PARENTS?


YOU MENTIONED SONIC!
WHERE IS HE NOW? IS HE ALL RIGHT?
HE'S FINE! HE'S BECOME QUITE A LEADER, YOUR SON!
I THINK YOU'LL BE VERY PROUD OF ALL HE'S ACCOMPLISHED!
NOW, C'MON--
--THERE'S A LOT OF WORK THAT NEEDS OUR ATTENTION!
DOWN HERE?! IN THE SEWERS?!
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS UP ON THE SURFACE BUT DOWN BELOW--
--WE HAVE A BASE WE CAN OPERATE FROM!
I SHOULD HAVE REALIZED THEN AND THERE HOW DELUSIONAL MY BROTHER WAS!
WE WOULD NEED AT LEAST AN ARMY IN ORDER TO FIGHT BACK--


"--WHILE THE BEST WE COULD MUSTER WAS ONLY A MERE HANDFUL!"
RUDYARD!
GET DOWN HERE BEFORE THE 'BOTS CATCH YOU!
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO "LADIES FIRST?"
BERNIE! I THOUGHT--
YOU THOUGHT WHAT? THAT YOU'D NEVER SEE ME AGAIN? MEN! DON'T YOU KNOW--
YOU'RE MY WORLD, JULES--YOU AND OUR SON!
AND I'LL DO ANYTHING TO KEEP US TOGETHER!
SPEAKING OF SONIC--
DOES HE KNOW ABOUT US, CHARLES?
I'VE TOLD THE BOY ABSOLUTELY NOTHING, JULES!
HE'S BEEN UNDER ROSIE'S CARE EVER SINCE ROBOTNIK TOOK OVER TEN YEARS AGO.
IF YOU WANT, I CAN TELL HIM I'VE FREED YOUR MINDS WITH POWER RINGS!
"WE DECIDED IN THE END IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR SONIC NOT TO SEE US IN OUR PRESENT CONDITION--"


--BUT TO REMEMBER US AS WE WERE! AT LEAST NOT UNTIL AFTER ROBOTNIK'S DEFEAT!
AN AMAZING TALE! HOW IS IT POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO RECALL EVENTS YOU WERE NOT EVEN CONSCIOUS DURING?
I LEARNED WHAT I COULD FROM WHOMEVER I TALKED TO.
BUT THE MOST REVEALING SOURCE HAPPENED TO BELONG TO MY BROTHER!


CHARLES RECORDED HIS JOURNALS ON ZIP DISKS SUCH AS THE ONE I'M NOW HOLDING!
THIS DISK IN PARTICULAR COULD BE THE ANSWER TO MANY THINGS STILL LEFT UNANSWERED!
ONCE MY BROTHER WAS RECAPTURED ANY HOPE OF DECODING IT WAS LOST!



AND WITH THAT, WE CONCLUDE *TALES FROM THE GREAT WAR!* BUT *DON'T GO AWAY, GANG!* NEXT ISSUE, GET READY FOR MORE

SONIC ADVENTURE™